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The Guatemalan Handshake: The Movie Of The Year?  
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Ladytron: Beat Kids In Disguise

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MAY 15, 2008  
**ISSUE 755**



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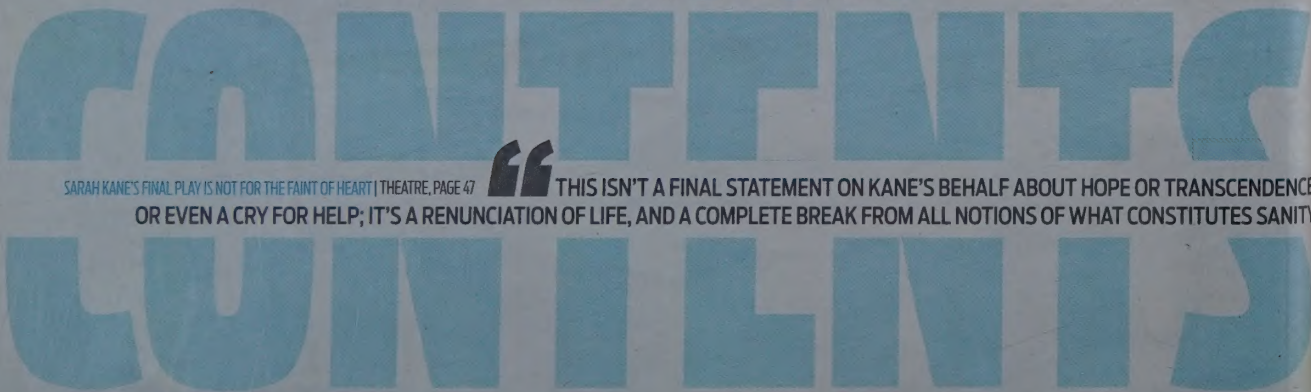
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SARAH KANE'S FINAL PLAY IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART | THEATRE, PAGE 47

“THIS ISN'T A FINAL STATEMENT ON KANE'S BEHALF ABOUT HOPE OR TRANSCENDENCE,  
OR EVEN A CRY FOR HELP; IT'S A RENUNCIATION OF LIFE, AND A COMPLETE BREAK FROM ALL NOTIONS OF WHAT CONSTITUTES SANITY.”

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The Machine Girl, Metro Cinema, May 26

MAY 18

**film** | **TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE** All we can say is "What... the... fuck..." Our neighbour is looking people up for years without trials, sending them to other countries to be tortured and/or murdered... and we're helping. How did we get here? Metro Cinema, 7 pm.

MAY 19

**music** | **GEORGE THOROGOOD** "I'm a peaceful man. Violence is old-fashioned. You can't get any chicks that way." So sayeth Mr. Bad To the Bone, perhaps after consuming a single serving each of bourbon, scotch, and beer. Winspear Centre for Blues Rock Studios, 7:30 pm.

MAY 20

**music** | **LADYTRON** "Hit the North My Cat says eeeee-ack Hit the North 95% of [hayseeds or corn-pone], guaranteed... But what the heck, they're not too bad, they talk to God" Him... are they talking to us? Starlite Room.

MAY 21

**fashion** | **LOVE STYLES** The outrageously tasteful, tastefully outrageous Henry and Irving once again at the helm of Theatre Network's clothes-focused fundraiser, a fashion show with the emphasis on the show. \$20 advance, \$25 at the doors, open at 7 pm. Roxy Theatre.

MAY 22

**music** | **LE MYSTERE DE LA VOIX BULGARES** One of the oddest groups to amass best-selling CDs, this troupe make a sound akin to Gregorian chant blended with whale song... which turns out to be rather pleasant, so hit the Drone Dome (AKA The Myer Horowitz Theatre.)

MAY 23

**music** | **WILLKOMMEN IN SPREEPARK** "Invites the audience to interact with artists and performers in bringing East Berlin's forsaken amusement park back to life." Ok. We're in. Music tonight by Blind Tiger, Tiger and Illfit Outfit, but you'll want to go all three nights. TransAlta Arts Barns.

MAY 24

**music** | **THE HIVES** We had hives once. We looked like our skin had been replaced with sofa upholstery. Just FYI. Anyhow, these identically attired Swedes put on the 8th best live rock show going, according to *Spin*. See them at the still-unrated-by-*Spin* Edmonton Events Centre.

MAY 25

**clothes** | **FORM VS. FUNCTION** We're not sure how many people fit in the Naked Cyber Cafe, but given the musical hosts (B.E.A.M.S., Cockatoo) and fashion muses (Morse Code, Glam Barn, Sweet Carousel), this sounds like one event worth squeezing your ass into, be it prodigious or tiny. 7 pm.

MAY 26

**film** | **THE MACHINE GIRL** Sometimes, it's really not a good idea to push people, you know? Like... don't bully their brothers, because you never know when they're going to turn all their limbs into weapons. And to think we were going to be happy just getting an iPhone. Metro Cinema, 9 pm.

MAY 27

**music** | **CHARLIE SIZEMORE** Let's see... original member of Union Station, couple of fellas from Kentucky, where the true bluegrass/bluegrass grows... sounds like a fine evening of good honest music making. Nice work, Northern Bluegrass Circle. We'll see you at the Royal Albert Museum, 8 pm.

MAY 28

**anticipation** | **NEW ISSUE OF SEE TOMORROW** Stay at home to plan what you'll read first.

MAY 29

**theatre** | **BETWEEN YOURSELF AND ME** Ok, Belkephiles, you asked for it. Shadow Theatre delivers: the return of this well-received 2001 work from Edmonton's favourite purveyor of theatrical rom-com. Friends and lovers and serial dating. Belkephiles. Varscona Theatre, 8 pm.



Charlie Sizemore, Royal Alberta Museum, May 26

Clothes | MAY 25



THIS SOUNDS LIKE ONE EVENT WORTH SQUEEZING YOUR ASS INTO, BE IT PRODIGIOUS OR TINY.

see magazine's two-week forecast of events in edmonton

listings: news pg 11 | city life pg 18 | music pg 35 | film caps pg 44 | arts pg 49

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NEWS • PEACE-ATHABASCA DELTA • BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT | 1,125 words

# Too Quiet On The Northern Front



**Far To The North** | Rachel Notley spent part of her childhood living on the banks of the Peace River and shares northern Alberta's concerns about B.C. damming. PHOTO BY MERVY SMITH LAWTON

## IS THE B.C. DAM THAT COULD DRY UP THE WORLD'S LARGEST BOREAL DELTA ALREADY A DONE DEAL?

A proposed dam on the British Columbia side of Peace River could affect water levels, fish, and plant life along the already strained Peace-Athabasca delta, but water advocates here in Alberta are struggling to get the information they need to mount a response to the plans.

Bob Cameron, a member of Keepers of the Water, a multi-province advocacy group, has been trying for over a year to get information about trans-boundary water-sharing discussions between the two provinces. He says Alberta Environment has told him he must wait until the agreement is completed.

"Popping the agreement out when it's all cooked up is the same thing that's happening with the TILMA trade agreement," he says, referring to the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement between Alberta and B.C., which was signed before it was ever discussed in the Alberta legislature. "It might seem okay to Eddie Stelmach, but I give my head to shake."

Cameron is concerned that the dam, called Site C, will reduce the amount of water flowing over the border and through the Peace-Athabasca delta, which stretches across the whole of northern Alberta and into Saskatchewan. The waterway is one of the largest freshwater deltas in the world, and the largest boreal delta. The area is one of the most important nesting and resting areas for ducks, geese, and swans in North America. It is also prime stomping grounds for buffalo, according to Environment Canada.

Cameron recalls how in the 1970s, another dam on the Peace River, the W.A.C. Bennett Dam, dried up ponds along the delta, reducing the flow of the river at times, and causing flooding in Fort Chipewyan when water was released. And so he's not buying reassurances from B.C. Hydro that the dam will not be as damaging as the Bennett Dam; he wants to know exactly what Alberta is discussing with B.C.

Rachel Notley, MLA for Edmonton-Strathcona and the NDP environment critic, says he's right to be concerned, as Alberta Environment has a reputation of secrecy and poor communication with the public.

"We don't have a culture of openness in Alberta—quite the contrary," she says. "I share the concerns that people in the North have about not getting information and not being consulted."

Notley herself hasn't heard much about the project. Alberta Environment didn't mention consultations with B.C. in their strategic plan or their recent budget. Frank Oberle, the Conservative MLA for Peace River, declined *SEE's* request for an interview.

The negotiations on water flow across the border are separate from consultations on Site C, according to Alberta Environment. Because Site C is still in the very early stages, they say, there simply isn't much information on environmental consequences. "Nothing has been submitted," says spokesperson Cara Van Marck, "so it would be very hard for us to comment."

If B.C. approves the dam, then the province must consult with Alberta and the federal government, but until the approval occurs, there's nothing to talk about.

David Conway, B.C. Hydro spokesperson for the Site C dam, emphasizes that B.C. is still in the consultation

phase, and the dam is not a done deal. (Indeed, the project has been shelved several times previously.) Consultations in B.C. will continue into 2009, after which the B.C. government will make its final decision.

But obviously water activists have to make their case against the dam before the B.C. government makes a decision, says Norine Wark, a B.C. member of Keepers of the Water, who has fought Site C since she was a teenager. The dam has been on the B.C. government's back burner for decades, she explains, but this time around the manufactured perception that Canadians are facing an energy crisis is putting more political push behind the dam than ever before.

"Site C is considered a cash cow," Wark says. "They are building it to sell the energy [to the United States] and make gravy over the next 10 years."

According to Wark, the B.C. government has successfully sold the dam as a "green project" and part of their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, when in fact the dam will actually ruin fruitful agricultural lands in a warm microclimate, and could have an adverse effect on an ecologically important delta, one that

## NEWS BRIEF BY ANDREW PAUL

### ALBERTA • SOCIAL SERVICES SOCIAL NET IN PERIL

Albertans who depend on social service programs will be left out in the cold if the social service sector doesn't get an immediate cash injection from the province.

The sector needs an additional \$242 million to bring services up to par, said Bill Winship, vice-president of the Alberta Council of Disability Services at a press conference last Wednesday. The severe funding shortfall has hamstringed the industry's ability to attract qualified staff who have been migrating to higher-paying government jobs, say sector spokespeople.

The Alberta government has committed \$41 million to social service agencies to attract staff, but even with that extra cash, the sector can increase wages by only five per cent.

Over the past six months, 12 foster homes and six group homes have been temporarily closed, and an intensive residential program and healthy relationships groups for 16 youths per year have been closed permanently.

"Unfortunately, our backs are against the wall today, and Albertan vulnerable children are suffering," Alberta Association of Services for Children and Families president Patty Kilgallon told reporters. "We are distressed to say that these allocations will not change the problems we are facing."

### CANADA • HEALTH CARE RALLY FOR NATURAL MEDICINE

Demonstrators gathered in Gazebo Park Saturday afternoon to fight for the right of Canadians to use natural health products as an alternative to prescription medicine in the face of sweeping changes to the Canadian Food and Drug Act.

Health Canada has ignored calls to place natural health products (NHPs) under their own classification. Instead, Bill C-51 aims to reclassify NHPs as drugs. This could render up to 75 per cent of currently available NHPs illegal. The new bill would require companies to prove the medicinal value of their products, but protesters were concerned that they would lose access to medications they personally already find effective.

The bill will also expand the definition of "sell" in the Food and Drug Act to include giving a substance away for free. Many activists pointed out that a mother who fed her child garlic pills, for example, would technically be breaking the law.

Nakita Valerio, a health consultant for Optimum Health Vitamins, calls the situation ironic because the government is trying to regulate substances that have never caused death, whereas they already regulate prescription drugs that have.

Bill C-51 has already passed its second reading, and could become law as early as this week.

**B.C. DAM cont'd pg. 8**

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**B.C. DAM (cont'd from pg. 7)**

serves as a buffer to climate change. "Because it's up north and out of mind," Wark says, "it's like the people down south are sleeping. They have no idea what a huge ecological disaster this dam is."  
Current plans for the dam include a long, skinny reservoir of water behind an earth-filled dam about 60 metres high, 1,100 metres across, and about 800 metres at the base.

The Mikisew Cree First Nation is currently suing the B.C. government over the flooding caused by the Bennett Dam. No one consulted with First Nations before building that dam, says George Poitras, a Mikisew member and activist. Periodic flooding from the dam killed many animals in the area, animals that the Mikisew depended on for both food and trapping income. The Athabasca

they are proposing another dam. Naturally, Fort Chiwayan is very concerned about Site C."  
With the oilsands drawing large amounts of water from the Athabasca River, as well as the proposed nuclear plant possibly drawing water from the Peace River, both Poitras and Cameron worry about the cumulative effect on the health of the delta. At the very least, Cameron

**"BECAUSE IT'S UP NORTH AND OUT OF MIND," SAYS KEEPERS OF THE WATER MEMBER NORINE WARK, "IT'S LIKE THE PEOPLE DOWN SOUTH ARE SLEEPING. THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT A HUGE ECOLOGICAL DISASTER THIS DAM IS."**

B.C. Hydro is selling the dam as similar to a "run-of-river" project, which has far less adverse consequences than a regular dam. The idea is that the same amount of water comes out of the dam that goes into it, making the Site C dam much less destructive than the Bennett dam, according to B.C. Hydro. But given the size of Site C and her experience with previous dams, Wark is highly skeptical, and so are the Mikisew Cree First Nations at the other end of the delta in Fort Chipewyan.

Chipewyan settled with B.C. Hydro a couple of years ago, but the Fort Chipewyan Mikisew Cree's lawsuit is still pending.  
The band sent letters to both provincial governments demanding they be consulted, a right the band has previously gone all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada to protect. Both Alberta and B.C. have promised to speak with the band.  
"There are a lot of outstanding concerns and issues, not to mention litigation," says Poitras, "and here

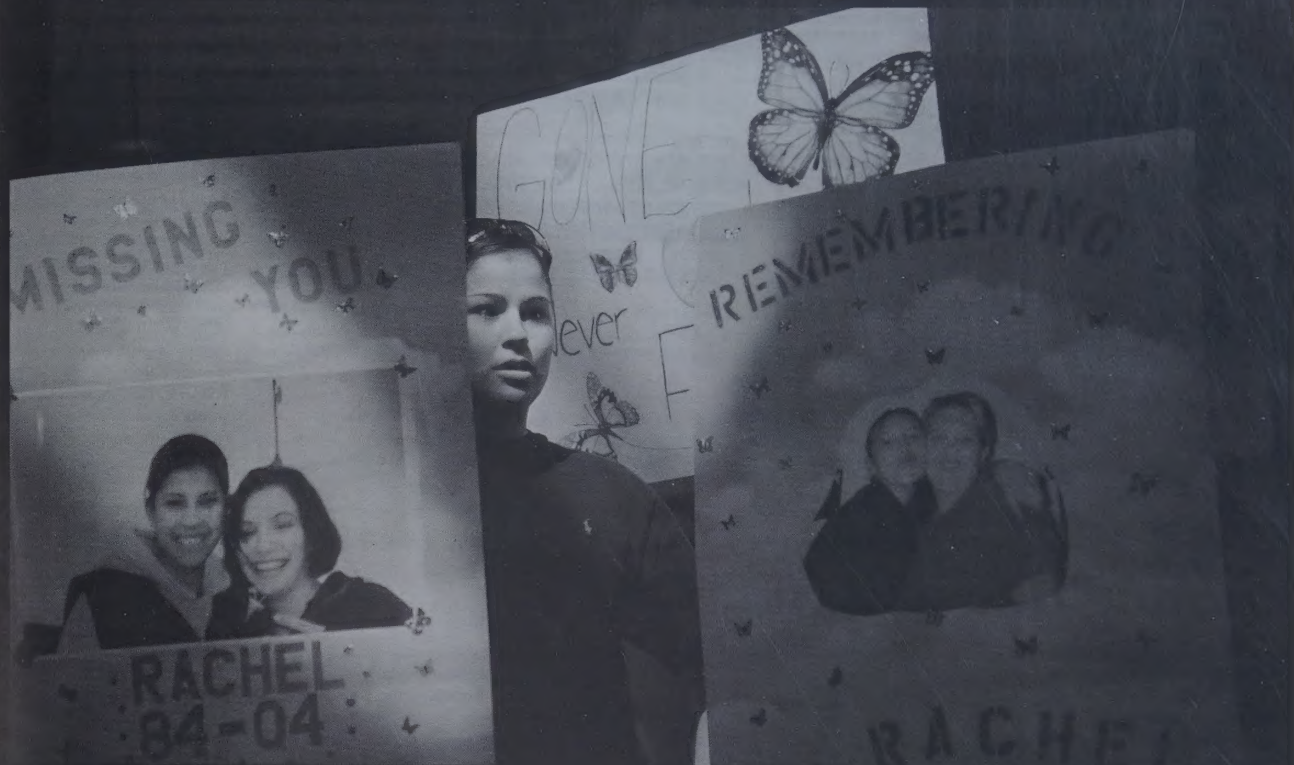
wants full discussion here in Alberta before B.C.'s plans become unstoppable.  
And that's a justifiable concern, says Notley, especially given Alberta Environment's poor reputation. The government should offer general information and a peer-reviewed environmental assessment to the public before any agreement is signed with B.C., she says. "People need to be given the time and the resources to participate meaningfully in the process."

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**“WHEN THE PRICE OF OIL HITS NEW RECORD HIGH PRICES EACH WEEK... WHY IS INDUSTRY NOT PAYING A LARGER PORTION FOR THIS VITAL CLEAN UP?”**

—Alberta Liberal leader Kevin Taft



## WITNESS

MAY 10, 2008 | 12:23:30 PM | NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE | PHOTO BY IAN JACKSON

Myrna Quinney, sister of murder victim Rachel Quinney, prepares to march in the Stolen Sisters Awareness Walk.

### OUR COMMENT ON THIS WEEK'S NEWS

#### EDMONTON • HOUSING FIRST-TIME HOME OWNERS DEBATE

The opposition from Riverbend residents over the mayor's first-time homeowners program should come as no surprise.

The whole reason Stephen Mandel got permission from the province to do a single public consultation on the controversial program (which will build modestly priced homes on vacant school land) was because he fully anticipated a negative reaction from some Edmonton neighbourhoods.

While the city needs more housing in the middle income range, Mandel's move to cut out residents' voices from the consultation process in order to speed up the program was anti-democratic and Riverbend has a right to grumble.

But that doesn't give Riverbend residents a free pass to be snobs about the new housing. When fighting big forces like developers and City Hall, communities often forget that there are other Davids in the field—and some of them just want a home.

#### ALBERTA • OILSANDS OUR OWN PERSONAL SWAMP MONSTER

Liberal leader Kevin Taft was right to question the Tories last week on the three cents per barrel that Suncor puts aside to pay for environmental cleanup of the oilsands.

Tailings ponds, the pools of toxic industrial waste in northern Alberta's oilsands, have taken on a looming, nightmarish character in the minds of many Albertans over the last couple of weeks. And the image of these dangerous waters is something Albertans and their children are going to have to live with for the next 100 years—at least. The effectiveness of the technology to clean the water and reclaim the land has never been proven, and Alberta's weak environmental laws probably won't nail companies with the full cost of the cleanup.

Alberta must come up with a detailed and realistic plan for cleaning up the oilsands and get the big oil companies on board before the oil runs out, companies leave, and Albertans are stuck with the mess.

#### CANADA • IMMIGRATION SPEED GOOD! RED TAPE BAD!

A couple weeks ago, the federal Tories argued that they axed the Co-Ordination of Access to Information Requests Systems (CAIRS) because it costs too much to maintain. And it seems Harper is on a roll. Another anti-democratic move that's drawing criticism is his inclusion of the Tories' immigration reforms within their budget bill. If parliament votes against the bill, then the government falls because the budget is an automatic confidence motion. The Tories argue that they are simply speeding up the debate, but the move is clearly designed to discourage criticism of the bill. (The Liberals, of course, should hold up their democratic responsibilities and vote against the bill anyway, but that's a whole other column.)

What's really mind-boggling is that the Conservatives are cutting off democratic debate left and right, despite having campaigned in the last election on a platform of accountability and openness.

### BY THE NUMBERS

#### SHINE OVER SUBSTANCE

ALBERTA EXPENDITURES ON INTERNATIONAL MARKETING VS. OILSANDS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (2006-2007 BUDGET YEAR) \*SOURCE: GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA



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# Harping On Harper



SLO-BLOG CRAIG ELLIOT

**MORE THAN HALF OF ALL CANADIANS DISLIKE STEPHEN HARPER. WELL, KNOCK ME OVER WITH A FEATHER!**

Pollsters are funny, so it only follows that the polls they use to gauge the moods of Canadians would be funny too. As a result, a funny thing happened on the way to figuring out what the hell is wrong with the Liberal Party of Canada. A recent poll conducted by the Canadian Press-Harris/Decima discovered a couple of main facts: Stéphane Dion's biggest problem is with communication, and there's something about Stephen Harper that 55 per cent of Canadians just don't like.

Well. Knock me over with a teeny-tiny, downy little puffball of a feather. Stephen Harper—unlikeable? Huh. That's funny, eh? The man cuts daycare plans and adult literacy programs, does his part to keep the nation's justice system out of reach of the disadvantaged, tears the heart out of women's equality advocacy programs, and turns his back on the Kelowna Accord—like, what's not to like?

But a list of Stephen Harper's dubious accomplishments wouldn't be complete without an accompanying image, and you'll know exactly what I mean after you Google him. (It's worth it to seek out the "Jethro" series from the Calgary Stampede a few years back.) Harper glowers at you with those bitterly cold little eyes, with a smile that says, "I can't wait to be away from here, by myself, so I can put you at the very top of my list of personal enemies."

And of all the things Mr. Harper is adept at, surely his greatest skill is finding enemies. They're everywhere. In hordes. Among them: un-

named anti-Semitic individuals who would rather see Israel treated as a nation populated and governed like any other by imperfect, fallible human beings than as a special case above all reproach; much of the Canadian news media; the Maritimes; Kyoto supporters; various and sundry poke-arounders and question-askers. And Liberals.

Now, if you're one of the lucky

he did with the chair and advisory panel of the Immigration and Refugee Board).

Although you shouldn't assume that he won't sue you if the mood overtakes him, such formality isn't always required with a man who quite literally wrote a book on how to foul up the workings of Parliamentary committees and then point the finger at someone, anyone, everyone else;

**THE MAN CUTS DAYCARE PLANS AND ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS, DOES HIS PART TO KEEP THE NATIONAL JUSTICE SYSTEM OUT OF REACH OF THE DISADVANTAGED, AND TEARS THE HEART OUT OF WOMEN'S EQUALITY ADVOCACY PROGRAMS. WHAT'S NOT TO LIKE?**

ones, Harper will perhaps just smear you as a partisan hack and then fire you (you know, like he did Linda Keen, president of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission), or maybe he'll hang you out to dry with an impossibly large job and not enough bodies to make a serious go of it until you quit out of sheer despair (as

a man who unveils attack ads with the pleasure most people only take in children and birthday parties; a man who has raised the art of dragging down Question Period to the deepest depths to its greatest heights.

By the time you've added in the environmental doubletalk, the reflexive Bush-loving, the personal

role he played in the selling-out of all Canadians via his caving to the United States on softwood lumber and through the Security and Prosperity Partnership of the Americas (which will eventually hand over all of North America to transnational corporations), his well-deserved reputation as a control freak, bossypants know-it-all and all-around grouchola, to suggest that there's one small, can't-quite-put-my-finger-on-it personality trait of our prime minister that people find off-putting is to vastly understate the case. Though it's also what makes pollsters funny, now that I think about it.

So, while Stéphane Dion may have a problem with communicating, he should look on the bright side. Stephen Harper gets the message across all too well that he holds most Canadians—a great deal more than 55 per cent of them—in very low regard. What is it about Stephen Harper that Canadians don't like? Probably the fact that Stephen Harper doesn't like them.

COMMENT • ENERGY | 818 words

# Pinning Down Carbon Capture

GUEST COLUMN PETER JOHNSTON  
**WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN CARBON CAPTURE IS THE RIGHT ANSWER**

[Editor's Note: Peter Johnston is the deputy leader of the Alberta Green Party and ran in the recent provincial election in Edmonton-Glenora. For five weeks in this guest column he will offer his ideas about the future

direction of energy in Alberta, along with plain-English explanations of the technology involved.]

When I heard that the federal and provincial governments were going to focus on carbon capture as their main strategy for reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs) for the next couple of decades, I was aghast.

Okay, that's a pretty normal reaction for me on hearing the latest kooky

idea to come out of either the provincial or federal Tory ministries of the environment. So, rather than pooh-pooh everything out of hand, I decided to look deeper and see if the plan had any merit.

Carbon capture involves catching carbon dioxide, compressing it into a liquid form and pumping it down a deep hole where it will (hopefully) remain out of sight and out of mind for thousands of years. There are other types of sequestration being researched, but this is the basic strategy that the Canadian and Albertan governments are following.

The system does work. Norway's Statoil has been pumping carbon dioxide down 1,000 metres below the seabed of the North Sea since 1996. Depleted oilfields offer the right kind of geology for sequestration and the carbon dioxide repressurizes the field and increases the amount of extractable oil. In Saskatchewan this has been done in the oilfield at Weyburn, with carbon dioxide pumped through a pipeline from North Dakota. Not only has this project shown that sequestration is feasible, but it has also doubled the amount of oil being recovered, to 10,000 barrels a day. In such circumstances carbon dioxide is a valuable method for increasing the percentage of recoverable oil and a potential source of income for the companies producing the gas. Five of the companies operating in the oilsands have formed a consortium with the aim of sending the carbon

dioxide south so it can be sold to oil companies working depleted fields.

Locations other than depleted oilfields are also potential storage sites for carbon capture. Salt domes, for instance, offer vast potential, as do deep coal beds. Natural gas companies hope to increase the amount of methane recoverable from coal beds by injecting carbon dioxide into them.

But the problems with carbon capture outweigh these benefits. The system requires the construction of a very expensive infrastructure of pipelines, compressors, and capturing equipment. And it's going to be consumers and/or taxpayers who pay for it. Also, All this extra equipment is also going to consume a considerable amount of energy—energy that is becoming more expensive as world oil supplies peak. All this development and construction is going to take years to get up and running—years that we don't have! The scientific community tells us that we must reduce our GHG emissions quickly and even the provincial government admits that they see no reductions taking place until 2018 at the earliest. In the meantime, our emissions are rising at an increasing rate.

Another factor that usually never arises during discussions of carbon capture is the technology's narrow focus. Industrial plants are not the only big producers of carbon dioxide. The meat processing industry produces 18 per cent of the planet's

GHG emissions; that's as much as transportation, and the sector is expanding. Neither of these sectors will have their carbon dioxide emissions reduced by capture. Look at it this way: the methane in cow farts is 18 times more potent than carbon dioxide as a GHG, and yet there are no plans to reduce methane emissions.

Finally, carbon capture is not a long-term solution to our emissions problem. Indeed, it allows us to continue with business as usual, indiscriminately burning fossil fuels. To achieve a meaningful, long-term reduction in our GHG emissions, we need to develop a sustainable energy industry and plan for a post-fossil-fuel economy, and above all, be much more efficient in our energy usage.

Just because carbon capture is viable, that doesn't mean we should use it. The technology is very expensive and should be viewed as an interim measure until we have developed a sustainable energy industry. It should not be thought of as a means to allow us to rip northern Alberta apart with a clear conscience. Whatever policies our governments adopt regarding Canada's GHG emissions, we are going to be relying on burning fossil fuels for the next couple of decades at least. That means carbon capture is a necessary part of the government's plan for reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Let's just hope the provincial and federal governments come up with the rest of the plan soon.

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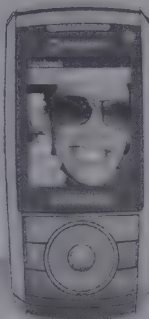
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WELLNESS • YOGA • BY SARAH DOUZIECH (902 words)

## So You Think You Know Yoga



Uptown, Downtown, Upside Down | Angela Zawada (not seen) leads a class in hot yoga at Moksha Yoga. PHOTO BY IAN JACKSON

### WE CONTORT OURSELVES AT A HOST OF EDMONTON STUDIOS. STYLES, AND CLASSES, TRYING TO FIND THE PERFECT FIT

So you’ve finally decided to jump on the bandwagon and start practicing yoga. Lament if you must the globalization of this ancient Eastern practice; the fact remains, with its ideals of harmony and health, yoga provides a great counterbalance to the hectic modern world.

Oh, blah blah blah. Everyone’s doing it, so you wanna do it too, right? You need to justify those 200 bucks you dropped at Lululemon anyway.

Maybe you’ll start with a video by Rodney Yee or Baron Baptiste to experiment at home, then upgrade to a registered class at a fitness centre. Or you might sample a few drop-in classes at studios around the city. Well, aren’t you smart? That’s exactly what I did. I visited four established local studios to see what they offered in the way of scheduling, variety of drop-in classes, and the styles of yoga they taught.

My first stop was The Yoga Loft on Whyte Avenue ([www.theyogaloft.com](http://www.theyogaloft.com)). Though the reception area and

changerooms are cramped, the studio itself is spacious. Warm yellow and orange walls lined by windows make it a beautiful (albeit hot) place to practice on a summer afternoon, or a cozy haven in the winter. For those who want a heart-pounding class in smaller groups, The Loft’s Ashtanga classes are a great way to go—a registered intro class to familiarize yourself with the postures is a definite must.

If you want a slower pace, check out their Yin Yoga class. Yin Yoga is designed as a complement to other forms of yoga, targeting connective tissues between muscles rather than the muscles themselves. In this practice postures are held for 3-5 minutes at a time, a slow pace which also helps meditation practice. Yin classes cost \$12 and are offered Wednesday and Saturday afternoons on a drop-in basis.

My second stop was a fairly new Lotus Soul Gym location downtown in Little Italy ([www.lotussoulgym.com](http://www.lotussoulgym.com)). Because of its newness, the entire studio is immaculate and stunning. I was particularly struck by the welcoming nature of the staff and instructors. I tried out their Vinyasa

Flow class—a method that comprises six series of postures that “flow” into one another, creating purifying heat and encouraging circulation and perspiration. The class is workshop-style with lots of individual instruction, and I felt a good sense of camaraderie with the other practitioners. The studio is well-equipped with heating lamps that kept everyone warm and limber. If you are looking for more personalized instruction and an intimate group setting, this may be the studio for you. Plus, after class you can take a stroll and indulge in the aromas emanating from the Italian Centre.

Once you familiarize yourself with the basics, you might try a different variation—like “hot” yoga. Bikram yoga is a series of 26 postures practiced in a hot and humid environment to deepen strength and flexibility and flush out bodily toxins.

Accordingly, my next stop was the Bikram Yoga Studio in Old Strathcona ([www.bikramyogaedmonton.com](http://www.bikramyogaedmonton.com)). Bikram studios are always equipped with showers and changerooms—I highly recommend reviewing the website and their studio’s recommendations before attending

your first class. Clad in booty shorts and tanktop, water bottle and extra towel in hand, the first thing to hit me when I entered the studio was the smell—to be expected, I suppose, given the number of bodies sweating into the carpet every day.

If you can get past the cramped space (I accidentally hit the girl beside me three times) and claustrophobic heat, the class is well worth it; you will sweat from places you never thought you could sweat from, and walk out refreshed and oddly energetic. If you like the idea of working out in a sauna and being constantly barked at by an instructor, try hot yoga.

A relatively new studio in Edmonton, Moksha Yoga ([www.mokshayogaedmonton.com](http://www.mokshayogaedmonton.com)), also offers this style and operates with an environmentally conscious philosophy: their studios are built and cleaned with sustainable non-toxic supplies.

The last studio on my sampler list was Lion’s Breath downtown ([www.lionsbreath.ca](http://www.lionsbreath.ca)) to try Hatha yoga, a more classical (and common) form of yoga. Hatha is a more gentle, meditative form of yoga that uses asanas, breath, and meditation to connect

mind and body. In this expansive second-floor studio, the setting sun shone through the space all through the class. With no mirrors to distract you, I found it a much more personal experience. Any concern I had about being awkward or uncoordinated dissipated as I concentrated on the moment-to-moment ritual. Our final savasana was enriched when the instructor came around with aromatherapy oil and gave us each a temple massage—a wonderful touch. This style and studio is well suited to those who are looking for mental exercise more than physical exertion.

Whatever you do, wherever you start, remember that yoga is a very personalized practice. My own journey began years ago in an Iyengar yoga class, which uses props to facilitate healthy posture and alignment (go to [www.bkseyengar.com](http://www.bkseyengar.com) for more information). I learned how to properly align in the asanas and developed strength, stamina, and flexibility to boot. The greatest benefit was the balanced sense of self that crept into my every cell. Certainly better than any aerobic activity I’d ever tried.

# Through Rosé Coloured Glasses

**THE CLOYING SWEET WHITE ZINFANDEL IS EVERYWHERE, BUT THERE'S MORE TO PINK WINE THAN MEETS THE EYE**

Hybridity is a trendy concept these days—any class in post-colonial English literature will prove that much—and wine that walks the line is no exception. With the arrival of a sun that warms rather than deceives, it's now chic to whip out a glass of pink.

**THERE'S A COMMON ASSUMPTION THAT PINK WINES ARE MADE BY BLENDING WHITE WINE WITH RED. WELL, THAT'S ONE WAY OF DOING IT, BUT IT'S THE WORST ONE.**

Though red and white wines are named for their colour, pink wines are not often dubbed as such. Rather, a host of other descriptors are used, namely "rosé" and "blush." This exception calls attention to the wine's dubious past reputation; blushes are associated with White Zinfandel and Mateus, while rosés wear a forced title designed to elevate them above their humble origins. Though the word "pink" seems to carry more playful, less-serious connotations than virginal white or noble red, it also works to convey the true character of a pink wine.

That character is typically dry (sometimes bone dry), with refreshing acidity and pretty aromatics of strawberries, raspberries, flowers,

and/or herbs. Though you can still readily find cloyingly sweet White Zinfandel, it's being pushed to the side by dryer pinks (amen).

Though pink wines are eminently quaffable on their own (especially on a hot day—just try that winter's night Syrah on a summer day), they have more balls than white wine and can therefore pair up with stronger fare. While they make good companions to salads and other veggie dishes,

they also marry well with flavourful, fleshy fish (salmon or tuna) as well as pork, duck, and chicken.

A very useful food-and-wine pairing tip is the rule of origin: wines tend to pair best with foods that come from the same region. The cradle of pink wines is France, specifically the very warm regions of Provence and the southern Rhône. The Mediterranean cuisine of these regions is heavy in garlic, herbs, and strong foods like artichokes—flavours that usually obliterate the palate and make wine taste ghastly—yet a pink Provençal rosé can cut through the most garlicky of aioli. (Also be sure to check out the great pinks from Spain, Australia, South Africa, and the Loire, Languedoc, and Burgundy

regions of France.)

The common assumption is that pink wines are made by blending white wine with red. Well, that's one way of doing it, but it's the worst one. (It's also the way most of your run-of-the-mill, cheap, mass-produced pinks use.) Though there are a couple exceptions (this is how pink Champagne is made, the only instance where blending white and red wine is legal in France), blended pinks are best avoided.

A better way of making pink wines is the short maceration (skin contact) method, in which the red grapes are crushed and the juice is left to sit alongside the skins for a short period of time before being drawn off to another vessel to ferment. The longer the maceration, the darker and more flavourful the finished wine will be, as most of the aromas and flavours come from the skins. As such, a good rule of thumb is that the darker the pink, the more aromatic and complex it will taste, and vice versa.

The second process is really just a variation on the skin contact method, but it has a fancier name: "saignée," or "bleeding" for you non-franco-phones/non-oenophiles. Here the focus is on making a red, and the pink wine is just a profitable by-product. As with the skin contact method, the juice is left in contact with the skins after the grapes are crushed. However, after a short period of time, some of this juice is "bled" off, leaving the



**I Spy With My Little Eye...** | Something that is pink, and pairs well with summer sipping. PHOTO BY MELISSA PRIESTLEY

remaining mixture with a higher skin-to-juice ratio. The finished red is therefore more flavourful and intense. While the winemaker could just chuck out the pink juice, it makes

more financial sense to ferment bottle, and sell it, and these saignée pinks are usually the most flavourful of all rosé wines.

# Ahem—A Complaint About GTA IV



**HIDDEN NINJA FISH GRIWKOWSKY  
SEE'S RESIDENT LIFE CRITIC  
HAS A FEW QUALMS WITH THE  
BESTSELLING VIDEO GAME OF  
ALL TIME**

Well, another week went by, and the real world went to shit that much more. Not that I noticed. My eyes were on more important things. In its first week, *Grand Theft Auto IV* offended New Yorkers. Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, and Hillary Clinton, while quite predictably breaking all videogame sales records in existence.

Bluster be damned, millions and millions of copies have sold at \$60 apiece. The game's popularity has everything to do with its open, sandbox-style of playability. It's a kind

of roleplaying we totally fantasized about as children playing crappy Atari games where your "man" was a single dot on the screen. But we knew it would be here one day, with this level of incredible detail.

Once your 30-year-old Serbian immigrant Niko Bellic shows up among the towers and parks of Liberty City—modeled painstakingly after the Big Apple and Jersey—what happens next is entirely up to you. But to a diminished degree, I must say That's right, *Grand Theft Auto IV* actually moves backwards through videogame evolution. Despite universal praise from the press, the game represents a major step backward from the series' previous incarnation, *San Andreas*.

First and foremost, *GTA IV* is noticeably more visually realistic than *San Andreas*. By the end of that game, you could fly Carl Johnson around in a jetpack in his underwear, sporting a pink mohawk and Groucho Marx glasses. The obvious next move was to land on the Welcoming to Las Venturas sign and shoot

police cars with a rocket launcher until the sheer weight of an entire state's military authority shut you down with rockets of its own. Fair enough. The whole, preposterous rampage had to end eventually.

But while *GTA IV* might look way

simply, no exasperated Carl Johnson. Sure, Bellic gets some fine lines, like shrugging off a "no" every time some street hustler rhetorically asks him, "Know what I'm sayin'?" But Johnson's plight in the faux-L.A. inner city was a fucking seriously

**IT'S NOT ALL BAD. I MEAN, I DID LEAP OUT OF A SPEEDING SEDAN ONTO THE STREET 20 SECONDS INTO MY FIRST DATE, THE SECOND SHE ASKED ME A PERSONAL QUESTION. AND I'LL ABANDON ANYTHING IF MY FUR HAT EVER GETS KNOCKED OFF. YOU CAN'T MAKE THAT SHIT UP, OR EVEN EXPLAIN WHY IT'S SO FUNNY.**

better, there's actually considerably less to do. Gone is the jetpack. And the Harrier jet. And the tanks. And the pink mohawk. And the haircuts. And the bodybuilding. And the ability to get fat on purpose by eating too many hamburgers. And the purple dildo. And being a general in neighbourhood gang warfare, the sound of fire and chaos echoing through the streets.

Worst of all, Niko Bellic is, quite

captivating narrative, especially as his first few missions were done for nothing more than neighbourhood cred. With Bellic, it feels more like you're a gofer on a movie set. And though said set is truly beautiful, one city cannot compare to an entire state parodying San Fran, L.A., and Vegas. Maybe I'm just West Coast, homies. But among the giant steel and glass fingers of Liberty City, you simply can't ever get the same speed

going, especially with the extra-sensitive cops.

This time around, we have simulations of the Internet, a GPS, a cellphone, some funny TV, bowling, and darts. Plus a giant, beating heart inside their version of the Statue of Liberty. Points. But they should've been added, not exchanged with the fact you could literally change the shape of your body through hard work or neglect in *GTA SA*, then fly around like Superman. Course, I write that sentence and look down at my beer belly and double-click on the irony here. It's not all bad. I mean, I did leap out of a speeding sedan onto the streets 20 seconds into my first date. The second she asked me a personal question. And I'll abandon *anything* if my fur hat ever gets knocked off. You can't make that shit up, or even explain why it's so funny.

That said, despite the unstoppable chorus of praise this massively consumed game is getting, I just wish it were as silly as the last high-water mark. Oh, 9/11—did you have to buzzkill everything?



# myLOOK


Shannon Claydon | Tattoo Artist  
BY CHRIS LEWIS

**Hair:** My neighbour shaves it for me.

**Wearings:** The Kangol cap is from from Headcase. I had a similar one, but lost it at a Dropkick Murphys show. The shirt is from Bang-On; I did the design myself and had it printed. The pants are Blind and I got them at Winners. The shoes are Circa from Far Side.

**Into:** Tattoos and art—which is pretty obvious. I'm going to a drop-in oil painting class with Pros Art School right now for fun. I really want to translate the styles used in oil painting—naturalism, realism, impressionism—and apply them to tattooing. Like making the pieces more about where your eye is going to go; the body is made of curves, so it makes sense to make the tattoo follow them.

MacEwan




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# 15minutes

Carmen Haywood | General Manager, Source Adult Video  
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**Q&As WITH EDMONTONIANS** BY CHRIS LEWIS

## Who sell sex toys and videos?

We sell adult magazines, clothing, videos, rental videos. We kind of offer a little bit of everything.

## Who is your largest clientele?

It's pretty split between female and male. It's changed a lot in the past nine years. When I first started, the only females that you would see come through the door were

employees, but now we get lots of women. It's become more acceptable; people are more open-minded these days.

## What is your most popular item?

Movie-wise, it would be things with a storyline or the really hardcore stuff—there isn't really a happy medium. The most popular toys for women are the vibrators, eggs, bullets. For men it would be the

pocket toys. The S&M and bondage gear seems to be getting more popular with both as well.

## Do most people come in knowing what they're looking for?

Most people don't know what it is they're looking for. They usually have a general idea of what they would like, but they're not really sure. It's new to them.

## Do you ever get complaints?

Occasionally. I mean, you get that with every retail business. Nine times out of ten, the complaint is "I didn't like the video."

## What else does the job involve?

We get to do a lot of interesting things as well. I get to do a lot of traveling. I go to the AVN Awards in January. We did a large adult show in Detroit about a year and a half ago.

That was something new and exciting to do. And we bring adult stars in for autograph signings. We've had quite a few over the past nine years.

## Like who?

The last person we had in was Belle Bond. She's fairly new to the industry. The first [signing] we had was a few years ago, and it was so busy that we had to stand at the front door and not allow anyone in, because the store was so full.

## Just for a signing?

They do autographs, they do Polaroids, they chat with you a bit because a lot of people have a lot of questions. The biggest question I hear at every signing is, "How do you get into the business?"

## What's the usual response?

Send a videotape to a production company.

## Are there many in Canada?

There are a few. It's very hard to film in Canada, because there are a lot of laws about what you can and cannot film. So 90 percent of the films are made in the United States or elsewhere. Quebec and Ontario is where most of the Canadian production companies are located. I mean, in Quebec you can buy a *Hustler* at your local convenience store, whereas here you cannot.

## Do you have fun at work?

It's definitely a very interesting and entertaining position. As general manager, I'm responsible for a lot. Basically running the transactions and daily operations of 20 stores at one time while being in one location. It definitely keeps me busy. And if I get bored in the office, I go out in the store, which is usually a good way to get an idea of what the customers are looking for and what they're interested in because trends change.

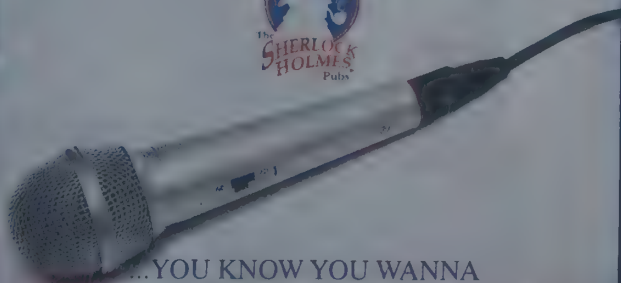
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THE PARDON OUR MOTHERS WHY

DINING • INDIAN • BY SCOTT LINGLEY (681 words)

# Perfect Palak Paneer

**THE NEWEST BLIP ON EDMONTON'S INDIAN EATS RADAR LEFT MY MOUTH ABLAZE—IN A GOOD WAY**

RASOI ON 50TH  
4341-50 St., 756-5600

Any Indian restaurant that wants to make a go of it in Edmonton must first struggle out of the shadow of the well-established giants—the New Asian Villages, the Khazanas, the Hawelis, even the sudden outbreak of Daawats popping up across the city. So when a friend tipped me to the existence of Rasoi, a new purveyor of Indian cuisine in Mill Woods, I felt duty bound to make the trip to its strip-mall premises and check it out for myself.

Part of the reason was that I'd been eating vegetarian for the previous two weeks, and Indian restaurants can be counted on to put up a substantial meatless bill of fare, given the deep tradition of herbivory back in the homeland. Little did I suspect that Rasoi's menu would break me down and tempt me into the taste of flesh—on the bone, no less.

Rasoi's interior certainly looks brand new—cool, contemporary,

and roomy, if not distinctively Indian, with a patio off the back that might make you forget you're in a strip mall. The dining room was only lightly populated, and a group of owners at the table adjacent to ours broke from their own feast frequently to look in on us, in addition to the attentions of our server.

My co-diner and I kicked things off with an order of veggie samosas

**INDIAN RESTAURANTS CAN BE COUNTED ON TO PUT UP A SUBSTANTIAL MEATLESS BILL OF FARE. LITTLE DID I SUSPECT THAT RASOI'S MENU WOULD BREAK ME DOWN AND TEMPT ME INTO THE TASTE OF FLESH—ON BONE NO LESS.**

(\$3) while we perused the menu—two stout fried pockets of potatoes and peas with chutneys of cilantro and tamarind on the side. We wanted more but curbed our yearnings to save room for entrées, of which there were many to choose from—more than a dozen vegetarian selections alone, with plenty more meat

and tandoori dishes to boot.

Co-diner left it to me to choose, so I ordered up some shahi kaaju aloo (\$9), palak paneer (\$9), rice (\$3), and plain naan bread (\$2), noting just then how inexpensive Rasoi's offerings were relative to the going rate for Indian food in other places. Perhaps that's where I tumbled off the vegetarian wagon; our meal had barely crossed the \$25 mark, which enabled me to talk myself into an order of rogan josh (\$12) to, you know, really test out the kitchen.

The platter of steaming, perfectly articulated basmati arrived forthwith, along with a boat of palak paneer—soft homemade cheese simmered in ghee (clarified butter), spices, tomato, and spinach that have been reduced to a rich, dark green goop. It's one of my favourite Indian dishes and Rasoi's kitchen had done it justice, imbuing the mire of stewed greens with enough fire to complement the smooth milkiness of the paneer.

The richness of this dish was nothing compared the shahi kaaju aloo, a dish that drenches melting cubes of potato in a sauce of ground cashews and cream fragrant with cardamom—scooping it up with crispy,

doughy chunks from the generous order of naan bread (two bucks!) was like having a savoury mid-meal dessert.

Next I turned my chosen egress from meatless eating, the rogan josh I entertained the fantasy that a hapless lamb had passed away in its sleep and donated its shanks to the cause of my nourishment as I slurped fall-apart-tender shreds of mutton, smothered in spicy gravy, off angular bones. Moha (the ignorance that causes suffering) was never so delicious, though this was definitely the fieriest dish of the bunch. Next time I'll splash out for a dish of raita (\$3) to ease the burn.

We'd already exchanged \$40 or so for full bellies and a substantial doggie bag when Rasoi's proprietor sent over a complimentary plate of pan-fried taro cakes embedded with roasted spices and garnished with pink strips of onion steeped in vinegar and tandoori spices, an item he said he was thinking of adding to the list of bar snacks (which already included, of all things, quesadillas). Stuffed as we were, we soldiered through most of the powerfully flavoured griddle cakes until our mouths were thoroughly ablaze.

## BURGERS

**MOTORAUT (12406-66 ST)** Although the food is relatively good, the real reason to visit Motoraut is to see the physical structure of the place. To say it's unique hardly does it justice. Unless you've been before, you're unlikely never had an experience like Motoraut.

★★★★☆

## CAFÉ

**MILL CREEK CAFÉ (9562-82 AVE)** If you're visiting Edmonton and staying downtown, walk south down the stairs at the MacDonald, cross the bridge, and head into Mill Creek ravine. Follow the path, up the hill at the Mill Creek Pool parking lot and wander right to the Mill Creek Café for a light bite to eat. That way, you'll experience both the great geography and the small-town hospitality we're so proud of.

★★★★☆

## HOTEL

**HOTEL MACDONALD (CONFEDERATION LOUNGE) (10065-100 ST)** Wondering whatever happened to the grand old tradition of hotel dining? It's the Hotel MacDonald. But if you're not in it dropping some large coin on a meal, pop by the Mac's Confederation Room for a glass of wine and a bite to eat. It's a guilty pleasure everyone should experience once.

★★★★☆

## INDIAN

**TANDOORI GRILL EXPRESS & MONTREAL DELI (6508-75 ST)** Despite the odd menu, these folks are capable of some fine cuisine. If you go, spend some time chatting with the staff and see if they can prepare any of your favourites. If so, you just might find that you have a new favourite tandoori restaurant.

★★★★☆

## ITALIAN

**SANTOS PIZZA AND STEAK (10821-95 ST)** Excellent place for a lunchtime sandwich in the heart of Edmonton's little Italy. It's not all fancy schmancy and uptight, but then again it isn't all fancy schmancy and uptight. They offer good standard Italian fare, prepared well at reasonable prices. What's not to like?

★★★★☆

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## HIGHLIGHT • SHOP TILL YOU DROP



Kitsch And Caboodle | This year's designer line-up has double the number of chat participants. PHOTO SUPPLIED

## Stop 'N' Shop • May 16-18 - Tansalta Arts Bams

The branchchild of local crafties Jenna Herbut and Ally Ng has grown exponentially. This season, the show hosts over 75 Canadian designers, some hailing from points as far away as North Sask and Vancouver Island, all offering artsy wares for your bod, hair, walls, dinner table, bathtub—hell, even cutesy stuff for your babies and pets. Eco-friendly goods also abound. Did I hear someone say "Charge it!"?

## EVENTS

**BLANKET OF REMEMBRANCE** MAY 16, 9-30 PM. CITY HALL, 1115 WINSTON CHURCHILL SQUARE. 1st Annual Round Dance for Aboriginal children who died while in the care of Child Welfare. Info: 479-4961.

**BRAINS ON BIKES** MAY 17-19, NOON. TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE, 11211-142 ST. Bicyclists will learn key bike and helmet safety tips. Info: 452-3100.

**THE CARROT ARTS MARKET** EVERY SAT, 10 AM-2 PM. JOHN'S CULTURAL CENTRE, 10611-110 AVE. Artists and artisans from the community and beyond share unique gifts, crafts, and artwork. Info: www.thecarrot.ca.

**EDMONTON RUSSIAN ARTS FESTIVAL** MAY 25, 1 PM. ST. JOHN'S CULTURAL CENTRE, 10611-110 AVE. Russian music, art exhibition, folk dances, souvenirs, and traditional desserts. Tickets: \$10, \$5 student/senior at the door.

**FOUNDER'S DAY TEA** MAY 18, 12 PM. RUTHERFORD HOUSE, 11151 SASKATCHEWAN DR. Part of the U of A's 100th anniversary. Includes cake and tree planting ceremony. Info: Alison, 427-3995.

**JON MCCOURT MEMORIAL RUN** MAY 24, 10 PM. FOOTE FIELD, 6501-115 ST. Participants take to the track for a 5k fun run at 10 pm when the track is illuminated by thousands of candles. In honour of loved ones lost to cancer and in celebration of cancer survivors. Registration is \$40 and open until May 11 at www.runningroom.com.

**LATIN CARNIVAL** MAY 17, 8-30 PM. NORTHGATE LIONS SENIOR CENTRE, 7524-139 AVE. Includes a Latin dance showcase, free salsa lessons, and Afro-Brazilian drummers. Tickets: \$15 at TIX or \$20 at the door.

**LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CANADA FREEDOM FAIR AND CONVENTION** MAY 17, 11 AM. HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS, 10010-104 ST. Includes a series of panel discussions on liberty where special guests and members debate and present their views. Tickets: \$5 at door.

**OTHER VOICES JOURNAL LAUNCH PARTY** MAY 15, 7 PM. AXIS CAFE. The Literary and Visual Arts Journal's 20th anniversary. Admission is free but donations are accepted. Info: www.othervoices.ca.

**RISE AWARDS** MAY 15, 7:30 PM. MACLAB THEATRE. Recognizing immigrants' success and excellence. Entertainment by Bombal and Cheremosh. Tickets: \$20, \$80 for VIP at www.emcn.ab.ca.

## MEETINGS

**ACOA EVERY MON, INCLUDING HOLIDAYS**, 7:30 PM. BSMT, BRAESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 86 BERNARD DR., ST. ALBERT. CORNER OF BISHOP ST. & SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL AVE. USE NORTH ENTRANCE. Twelve-step support program for adult children of alcoholic and dysfunctional families. **ALBERTA ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION** 3RD TUE EVERY MONTH, 5:30-9 PM. THE FACULTY CLUB, 11435 SASK DR. Pre-register at www.aaa.ab.ca.

**CINÉ-CLUB D'EDMONTON** 1ST MON EVERY MONTH, 7 PM. AUDITORIUM DU CAMPUS SAINT-JEAN, U of A. Donations accepted at the door.

**COUNCIL OF CANADIANS** MAY 21, 7 PM. GRANDIN GREEN CO-OP BUILDING, 9708-110 ST. Annual General meeting. Sean Curry from the Canadian Peace Congress will speak of his experiences at the International Peace Conference in Venezuela. Info: 429-4500.

**EDMONTON NATURE CLUB MONTHLY MEETINGS**, ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12845-102 AVE. A informative monthly meetings with guest speakers. Info: Mark, 430-7134 or mreine@telusplanet.net.

**FORWARD THINKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB** TUE, 7 PM. STRATHCONA COUNTY BUILDING, 2001 SHERWOOD DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK. Build self-confidence and communication skills. Info: 922-3835.

**FRENCH CONVERSATION THU, ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE.**

**#202, 8677 RUE MARIE-ANNE GABOURY** Info: Godfrey, 469-0393.

**GREAT EXPEDITIONS, HOSTEL TRAVEL** 2ND MON EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM. HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL, 10640-81 AVE. MAY 12 "Malaysia" by Daryl Rich. Everyone welcome. For presentation schedule or info: Sylvia, 454-6216 or 455-6741.

**HIP MAMAS MEET-UP** Young mothers and their babies meet several times a week. Free to join, plenty of friends to be made. Info: hipmamasmeetup.com/151/

**ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB** 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM. WOODY'S, 7ND FL, 11723 JASPER AVE. Cross-dressers, transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton\_illusions.

**IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB** 2ND AND 4TH THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM. SEP-MAY. PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL, 10860-57 AVE. Presentations, speakers, workshops, outings, monthly and year-end competitions. Photographic enthusiasts of all levels welcome. Info: www.imagesab.com or Sheila, 469-9716; Muffy, 452-6274.

**INNOVATORS' NETWORKING CLUB** TUE, 11:30 AM-1 PM. CAFE SELECT SOUTH, 109 ST. & 84 AVE. Business networking group, mixer, and club membership drive. Info: Dwayne, 463-6240 or dwayne@bighaven.ca.

**MKP MENS GROUP** EVERY MON, 7 PM. Men's meeting. Info: www.mkgp.org or Garrett, 452-5107.

**NORATORS TOASTMASTERS CLUB** WED, 7-8:45 PM. LONDERREY PUBLIC LIBRARY, LONDERREY MALL, 137 AVE. & 66 ST. Learn to speak clearly and with confidence in a supportive group. Info: www.norators.com.

**NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CLUB** THU, 8-10 PM. 10425 KINGSWAY AVE. Improve public speaking and communication skills in a fun and educational environment. Info: 465-3934 or www.norwoodtoastmasters.org.

**POWER SPEAKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB** WED 7-9 PM. GRANT MACLEAN COLLEGE CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, RM 437. Learn to speak with confidence in a supportive environment. Info: 732-0693 or www.powerspeakers.ca.

**SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES** Weekly drop-in meetings, providing resources and information on self-esteem, mental health, and employment. Men welcome to attend. Info: 496-5930.

**TOURETTE SYNDROME SUPPORT 1ST WED EVERY MONTH (OCT-JUNE)**, 7 PM. ACADEMY OF KING EDWARD, 8525-101 ST., NORTH DOOR. Meeting for TS adults and parents of TS kids. Info: 1-866-824-9764.

**UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS CLUB** WED, 7-8:30 PM. RM 601. NORQUEST COLLEGE, 10215-108 ST. Improve listening, speaking, and overall communication skills. Info: Roger, 454-3720, Theresa, 488-4098, or adamski@telus.net.

**WEST-END TOASTMASTER CLUB** TUE, 8:45-9 PM. JASPER PLACE LIBRARY, 9010-156 ST. Friendly environment of personal progress and mutual support. Info: 495-5424.

**WOW-WIRED ON WORDS** SUN, 11 AM-1:15 PM. THREE BANANAS CAFE, CHURCHILL SQUARE. An eclectic creative writing group welcoming both professional and amateur writers. Suggested donation \$10. Monthly meetings. Info: bewell.2008@gmail.com.

**YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE** 2ND FRI EVERY MONTH, 5 PM. REMEDY CAFE, 8631-109 ST. For discussion topics and suggested readings go to www.facebook.com/group.phogid-3559216104.

## HEALTH &amp; WELLNESS

**CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE** 11205-101 ST., 479-1999. A range of services for members of the Native community, including a free community lunch Fridays at noon, employment and Public Health information, counseling referrals and one-on-one support, AADAC & Legal Aid referrals, low cost or free beds, housing and clothing referrals. Info: 479-1999.

**CLUB LULULEMON**, 10544-82 AVE. Weekly activities to get you moving. Info: www.lululemon.com, 435-9363 or whyte@communitylululemon.com.

**COMMUNITY WEIGHT-LOSS CHALLENGE** VARIOUS LOCATIONS 6-week course on dieting and active lifestyles. Info: Carla, 966-0185.

**CONSTELLATION** EVERY 1ST & 3RD WED, 7 PM. 10431-37 AVE. A unique healing process, transforming past burdens into positive affirmations. Info: 967-9162 or constellation-currents.ca.

**FREE YOGA CLASS** EVERY SUN, 6-7 PM. LULULEMON ATHLETICA KINGSWAY All levels welcome, new styles each week, mats provided. Info: 471-1200 or kingswaygardencommunity@lululemon.com.

**GENTLE YOGA RADHA YOGA** 9946-87 AVE. Weekly classes in small group settings, Sunday Satsang (by donation). Call for schedule and fees. Info: 432-3363 or www.radha.org.

**LIVING POSITIVE** TUE, 7-9 PM. SUITE 50, 9912-106 ST. Confidential space where PZQ people can discuss and share common issues of concern. A peer-driven AIDS service organization, providing direct support to people living with HIV in Alberta. Info: 488-5168 or edmlivingpositive.ca.

**LOTUS SOUL GYM YOGA STUDIO** 10516-82 AVE. Multidisciplinary yoga studio offering drop-in and registered classes in hatha, vinyasa flow, Pilates, yoga for runners, pre-natal, post-natal, mommy & me, and partner workshops. All levels welcome. Info: www.lotussoulgym.com, 434-9642 or info@lotussoulgym.com.

**MADELINE SANAM FOUNDATION** 3RD & 4TH SAT EVERY MONTH, 9 AM-5 PM. FACULTE SAINT-JEAN, 8406-91 ST., RM 3-18. An organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African women, providing programs on economy, community health, training on HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment, and harm reduction. French, English and African languages. Admission free for members, membership \$10. Info: 490-7332.

**MEDITATION AND BUDDHIST TEACHINGS** GADEN SAMTEN LING TIBETAN BUDDHIST MEDITATION SOCIETY, 14703-101 ST. Meditation and Buddhist teachings by resident teacher, Tibetan Buddhist monk Koshok Lodsang Dhamcho. Beginners Tue 7 pm. Intermediate Wed 7 pm. Advanced practices Sun 11 am. Info: 479-0014 or www.gadensantenling.org.

**MS ACTIVE NOW** #150, 9405-50 ST. Recreation and physical wellness programs. Info: 471-3034.

**RADHA YOGA** VARIOUS LOCATIONS Classes include gentle hatha, hidden language/reflective hatha, dream yoga, kundalini/power of choice and meditation. Info: 432-3363, class dates at www.radha.org/edmonton.

**RAJA YOGA MEDITATION** #208, 10132-105 ST. In association with Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization.

CITY LIFE LISTINGS cont'd pg. 19

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**TOP 10**

- 1 Lollipop Lil Wayne
- 2 4 Minutes Madonna
- 3 Love In This Club Usher
- 4 Bleeding Love Leona Lewis
- 5 Low Flo Rida
- 6 Touch My Body Mariah Carey
- 7 No Air Jordin Sparks
- 8 With You Chris Brown
- 9 Elevator Flo Rida
- 10 LOW (Travis Barker remix) Flo Rida

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**INFO: WWW.BKWSU.ORG OR 425-1050.**  
**RIVER VALLEY RUNNERS TUE & THU 5:15-6:45 PM.**  
 RIVERDALE COMMUNITY HALL, 9231-100 AVE. Coached training for running on Edmonton's extensive river valley trails, includes warm-up and cool-down. Info: www.rivervalleyrunners.net or 447-9009.  
**SOUL MASTERS WOOD PREMIERE MAY 18, 1 PM.**  
 UNITY CHURCH, 13210-106 AVE. Spotlights breakthrough medical practices and self-healing techniques. Info: Yvonne 913-6466.  
**TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY THU 6:30-7:30 PM.**  
 ALLENDALE COMMUNITY LEAGUE, 6330-1054 ST. Weight loss support and information. First meeting is free. Info: TOPS0490@hotmail.com.  
**TRANQUILITY MEDITATION WED, 7 PM.** 10502-70 AVE. Tibetan tradition. Free, beginners welcome, instruction available. Info: Lama Ani Kunsang, 633-6157 or www.karmatashilling.org.

## LEARNING

**AFRICAN DANCE CLASSES 10275 JASPER AVE.** Movements, the Afro-Caribbean dance ensemble, offers African dance classes and workshops at all levels. Info: 415-5211 or www.movementsdance.com.  
**BEDOUIN BEATS MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE 2ND FLOOR, 12316 JASPER AVE.** For all skill levels. Info: 722-9773 or denise@iraqablydance.com.  
**DROP-IN ART FOR THE ARTIST AT HEART PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY, 19 PERRON ST., ST. ALBERT.** Info: Glenda, 460-4310 or ahglenda@telus.net.  
**EDMONTON WEAVERS' GUILD** Classes on weaving, spinning and various workshops. Info: Sonja, 425-1152 or ewg@interbaun.com.  
**EDMONTON WRITERS' CENTRE STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, #7 CHURCHILL SQUARE.** A creative space for writers of all genres and levels. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-9 pm, Sat 9 am-6 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Info: 496-7070.  
**FAVA WORKSHOPS** The Film and Video Arts Society offers one-night workshops twice a month in a variety of media activities. Info: www.fava.ca or 429-1671.  
**FLAMENCO LESSONS SUN & MON, 2:30-3:30 PM.** Judith and Oscar Jose Garcia teach both Flamenco dance & guitar. Info: 1-800-349-4843 or ogarcia@telusplanet.net.  
**KARATE INSTRUCTION** Classes for kids over 10, teens, and adults. Info: www.manatiscwin.com or 975-6910.  
**KITA NO TAIKO JAPANESE DRUMMING WORKSHOPS** Schedules, info, and registration: www.kitanotaioka.ca or 431-0300.

**MARS HILL CENTRE 88318-104 ST.** 435-0202 Classes and workshops on the recovery process. Registration on a sliding scale, based on participant's income. Info: www.marshillcentre.com  
**MEDIA MAG WORKSHOPS EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, #600, 9990 JASPER AVE.** Info: www.mediamag.ca or 609-5675.  
**NORTHERN RIVER KARATE SCHOOL TUE, THU & SAT, BELGRAVIA COMMUNITY HALL, 10540-73 AVE.** Weekly classes in Karate, Kobudo, Yoga, Qi gong, and Sitting Meditation. Info: www.threebattles.com.

## QUEER

**AGAPE EDUCATION FACULTY, U OF A CAMPUS** Focus group on sex and gender differences in education and culture. Pre-service and practicing teachers, community members welcome. Info: andre.grace@ualberta.ca or 492-0772.  
**EPS/LGBTQ LIAISON COMMITTEE** The EPS/LGBTQ Liaison Committees composed of a variety of concerned lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, two-spirited, queer, allied community members, and police officers. Email inquiries or concerns to epslgbt@yahoo.ca. All inquiries treated with confidentiality and respect. To report a hate or bias motivated crime, contact the EPS Hate & Bias Crime Unit, 421-3489.  
**INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus-based** organization for LGBTQ faculty, graduates, academic & staff. Straight allies welcome. Monthly meetings. Info: kwells@ualberta.ca or mwonham@ualberta.ca.  
**PRIDE CENTRE 9540-111 AVE., 488-3234.** Hours: Tue-Fri 11:00 pm. Sat 12-6:30 pm. Drop-in, library, and community internet services are available. Online newsletter. Hours: Tue-Fri 11-10 pm, Sat 12-6:30 pm. Info: 488-3234 or www.pridecentrededmonton.org.  
**TEAM EDMONTON** A volunteer operated, non-profit society for members and friends. All the GLBT community, offering well organized and fun sporting events and other recreational activities within a positive social framework. Info: www.teamedmonton.ca.  
**WOMONSPACE** Non-profit lesbian organization for Edmonton and surrounding area. Organized monthly activities. Memberships available, including monthly newsletter. Confidentiality assured. Info: www.gaycanada.com/womonospace, womonospace@gmail.com, or 482-1794.  
**YOUTHSPACE, PRIDE CENTRE OF EDMONTON, 9540-111 AVE.** After-school drop-in program for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans-identified, queer, questioning, and allied (GLBTQQ&A)

youth under 25. Open Tue-Sat 3-7 pm. Info: brendan@pridecentrededmonton.org or 488-3234.

## THURSDAY

**BI-SEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM.** A social group for bi-curious and bi-sexual women. Info: groups.yahoo.com/group/bwmedmonton.  
**FREE TO BE INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL 8-10 PM, 101 AMISKWICAC ACADEMY** Info: volleyball@teamedmonton.ca  
**GAYWIRE 8 PM, CJR 88.5 FM** Edmonton's only radio show concerning gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives. News, local and international features, and community events.  
**LGBT SENIORS DROP IN 1:30-3:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Social meeting for seniors of all genders. Info: Jeff, 488-3234.  
**ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM, BOOTS, 10242-106 ST.** Cross-dressers, transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton\_illusions.

## FRIDAY

**YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT 6 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.**

## SATURDAY

**NORTHERN TITANS GLBT BOWLING LEAGUE 7 PM, GATEWAY LANES & RECREATION CENTRE, #100, 3414 GATEWAY BLVD.** \$15 per person. Info: bowling@teamedmonton.ca.  
**SINGLE LESBIANS OVER 40** Women's social group, monthly gatherings for conversation over tea and coffee. Info: singlelesbians40plus@hotmail.com.  
**YOUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH 7-9 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, straight, and questioning youth (up to 25) gather to have fun and learn in a safe, supportive environment. Info: yuy@shaw.ca.

## SUNDAY

**ARCTIC FRONT RUNNERS 10 AM** Runners of all levels of ability welcome. Runs are typically 6-8 km, usually 44-60 minutes. Coffee afterwards. Info on venues and other runs during the week running@teamedmonton.ca, or 436-7892.  
**BALLROOM DANCING 7:30-8:30 PM** All gender combinations welcome. Salsa, rumba, waltz, jive. Info: 469-3281 or ballroom@teamedmonton.ca.  
**EDMONTON PRIME TIMERS (EPT) 2ND SUN MOST MONTHS, 2:30 PM.** UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON, 10804-119 ST. Older gay men and admirers meet for a social period, short business meeting, followed by guest speaker,

discussion panel, or potluck supper. Special interest groups meet for other activities throughout the month. EPT is affiliated with Prime Timers World Wide. Info: edmontontpt@yahoo.ca or www.primetimersworldwide.org/edmonton.  
**HATHA YOGA 2:30-3:30 PM, LION'S BREATH YOGA.** Introductory level class, free. All previous experience required. Bring yoga mat or towel and water. Info: yoga@teamedmonton.ca

**LAMBDA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 7 PM, GARNEAU UNITED CHURCH, 1148-84 AVE.** Lambda provides a safe and healing space for Edmonton's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and heterosexual Christians. All denominations and faiths welcome. Info: 887-8611 or lambdachurch@shaw.ca

**MEN TALKING WITH PRIDE 7 PM, PRIDE CENTRE 9540-111 AVE.** Men's social and discussion group, facilitated by Rob Wells. Info: robwells70@hotmail.com or 488-3234.

**SOUL OUTING 3RD SUN EVERY MONTH, 7 PM, ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH, 10209 123 ST.** LGBT-focused alternative worship. Info: 482-1587 or email: javenscroft@twk.org.  
**SOUTHMINSTER-STEINHAEUSER UNITED CHURCH 8 AM, 10740-19 AVE.** Welcomes all sexual orientations. Info: 987-4074.  
**SPIRITUAL LIVING CENTRE** Info: www.spiritualivingcentre.com or 989-3752.

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH 10 AM, 11526-76 AVE.** All orientations welcome for Sunday service. Info: 436-1555 or www.stpaulsmted.ca.

**TRANS EDUCATION & SUPPORT GROUP 1ST & 3RD SUN EVERY MONTH, 2 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Provides support and education for all transsexual, transgendered, intersexed, two-spirited, and questioning individuals. Info: www.albertatrans.org or 488-3234.  
**WOMONSPACE BOARD MEETING 1ST SUN EVERY MONTH, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.**

## MONDAY

**HIV SUPPORT GROUP 2ND MON EVERY MONTH, 7-9 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Info: Richard, 488-3234 or richard@pridecentrededmonton.org.

## TUESDAY

**FREEDOM METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF EDMONTON 7:15 PM, 10086 MACDONALD DR.** A church for all people. Info: 429-3237.  
**LGBT SENIORS DROP IN 1:30-3:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Social meeting for seniors of all genders. Info: Jeff, 488-3234.  
**MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB NAUT POOL, 11762-106**

**ST.** Recreational and competitive swimming and coaching. Beginners encouraged to participate. Practices every Tue (8-9 pm) and Thu (7:30-8:30 pm), followed by social meeting. Info: swimming@teamedmonton.ca

**OUTREACH 5 PM, HERITAGE ROOM, ATHABASCA HALL, U OF A CAMPUS** U of A based group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and straight-but-friendly students, staff, and faculty. Open to the community outside the U of A. Info: www.outreach.ualberta.ca or outreach@ualberta.ca

**PLFAG EDMONTON 1ST TUE EVERY MONTH, 7 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Support meeting for parents, families, and friends of GLBT individuals. Info: 488-3234.  
**STEP AEROBICS 5 PM, AEROBICS STUDIO KINSMEN SPORTS CENTRE, 9100 WALTERDALE HILL.** Info: step@teamedmonton.ca

**TRANS SUPPORT GROUP 2ND TUE EVERY MONTH, 7:30-9:30 PM, GARNEAU UNITED CHURCH MEETING ROOM, 1148-84 AVE.** Education and support group for trans-identified and questioning people. Info: 718-1412 or ttqalliance@shaw.ca

**TTQ ALLIANCE 2ND TUE EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Support meeting for transgender transsexual, intersex, and questioning individuals. Providing education, advocacy and support for men, women, and youth.

## WEDNESDAY

**EDMONTON RAINBOW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION 2ND WED EVERY MONTH** Casual networking with the GLBT business community. Locations listed at www.edmontonrba.org

**FREE TO RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL 8-10 PM, 101 AMISKWICAC ACADEMY** \$50 per session. Info: recvolleyball@teamedmonton.ca

**OPEN DOOR CLUB 5 PM, GRANT MACLEWAN COLLEGE, CITY CENTRE CAMPUS, 1116-717 Social group for GLBTQ students, faculty and friends at GMC.**

**TEAM EDMONTON BADMINTON 6 PM, OLIVER SCHOOL, GYM, 10277-118 ST.** Women's drop-in recreational badminton, all levels welcome. \$30 for the season, \$5 drop-in. Info: 465-3620.

**YOURS, MINE, OURS AND US (YMOU) 1ST AND 3RD WED EVERY MONTH** Support group for GLBT parents, partners, and friends. Info: 426-6311 or 415-5134.

**YOUTH THEATRE PROJECT 7 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.** Using theatre to increase awareness and reduce homophobic bullying. No theatre experience required. Info: Emily, 488-3234 or emily@pridecentrededmonton.org.

**“BASICALLY, IF YOU’RE NOT IN A BAND WITH BOYS PLAYING ROCK ‘N’ ROLL GUITARS, THEN YOU’RE NOT REALLY RECOGNIZED AS HAVING THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME POPULAR.**  
—LADYTRON’S REUBEN WU

MUSIC PREVIEW • BRIT POP • BY YURI WUENSCH | **100** words

# Bringers Of Speed And Keyboards

**LADYTRON BRING ENOUGH EQUIPMENT FOR DOUBLE THEIR LINEUP, AND ENOUGH POP TO KILL A HORSE**

## LADYTRON

w/ Datarock, May 20 (8pm), Starlite Room (10030-102 St).  
Tickets \$25, available through Ticketmaster, Megatunes, Blackbyrd, Listen.

Midway through my interview with Ladytron’s Reuben Wu, he asks if I wouldn’t mind calling him back. A blast of noise in the background on his end signals that it’s time for soundcheck—he and the band are in Valencia in support of their fourth album, *Velocifero* (the word is Italian for “bringer of speed”), due out on Nettwerk June 3.

Most musical acts will tell you that the first few tour stops are spent working out the kinks. But even through stops in Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, and Spain, Wu says it’s actually for the benefit of places like Edmonton that they want to make things perfect.

“Our biggest market has always been North America,” Wu says. “Generally, we have a bigger following over there than we do on this side of the world. To be honest, out of all Europe, we’re probably least well-known in our own country. In Liverpool, we’ve always had a strong underground following, but the music scene in England seems to be quite conventional—quite traditional, really. Basically, if you’re not in a band with boys playing rock ‘n’ roll guitars, then you’re not really recognized as having the potential to become popular. North American audiences have a bit more appreciation and open-mindedness about what pop music is.”

Ladytron is a big enough name in Edmonton to have landed Wu some



**Mirror, Mirror On The Wall** | Who’s the prettiest Ladytron? All of them all! PHOTO SUPPLIED

DJ gigs here in the past, but Tuesday’s show will mark the much-awaited local debut of the entire band. It seems sort of strange to think of blue-collar burgers like Edmonton being Ladytron’s bread and butter, if only because they seem like such a quintessential Euro band: a dark and

mysterious-looking foursome behind a wall of eight (count ‘em! eight!) keyboards—all churning out brooding, analog-heavy psychedelic synth pop. Alien-sounding? Maybe. But Wu insists he and bandmates Helen Marnie, Daniel Hunt, and Mira Ar-oyo are just as human as you or me.

“Frankly, eight keyboards really do look good onstage,” he laughs, noting that people can still count on seeing and hearing drums, bass, guitar, and other exotic instruments at the live show. “But we’ve always had loads of keyboards—it’s always been a big part of our identity. When we

started out, a lot of people got fixated on them and thought we were either like Kraftwerk or Human League, when in fact we don’t really have any specific influences. I don’t know why we do it. Maybe it’s some kind of strange fetish. But we’ve never really been into science fiction and the whole ‘We’re using synthesizers, come from outer space, stand next to highrise buildings, and look serious’ kind of thing.”

Instead, he says Ladytron’s human element comes from sources like ‘60s French pop icon Serge Gainsbourg and country music legend Lee Hazlewood—both of whom find a home on *Velocifero*. Co-produced with Ed Banger Records’ Vicarious Bliss and Nine Inch Nails’ Alessandro Cortini (who plans to deliver a remix of the album’s first single, “Ghosts”), Wu proudly proclaims *Velocifero* is the group’s most accomplished work to date.

Of course, that’s what critics said about Ladytron’s last album, 2005’s *Witching Hour*. And indeed, the song on *Velocifero* that Wu says he’s happiest about, “Tomorrow,” is one that didn’t make the cut on *Witching Hour*. Meanwhile, “*Velocifero*” is the title of a song they decided to drop from the new disc.

“It’s just a nice word that captures elements of the new record, whose whole theme is this kind of expansive, escapist sort of thing,” Wu says. “When we released *Witching Hour*, it was a milestone album for us.

It was the album that we were most happy with sound- and songwriting-wise. *Velocifero* was kind of taking what we had achieved and taking it to another place. It’s strange because this album seems like another first album. It was like starting all over again—and it’s nice to have that fresh start.”



**Jebus, It’s Still Snowing In Burlington?** | At least the St. Alvia Cartel know how to have fun with it. They should fit in nicely here. PHOTO BY NIKKI DIAMOND

## HOT TICKETS • MUST-SEE SHOWS

PUNK SPRINKLED WITH REGGAE

**St. Alvia Cartel**

Starlite Room • May 22

\$12 | Ticketmaster.ca, Megatunes

These six fellas from Burlington have been indulging in all manner of debauchery since the release of their self-titled debut album one year ago this month. The band, who took their moniker from the last surviving recipient of the Victoria Cross, Ernest Alvia “Smoke” Smith, is coming down from playing SXSW, shooting their pop-art video for “Blonde Kryptonite,” and recording material for a new album while crammed in the tour van. Be sure to see them before they get too big for their britches.

TRANCE SPRINKLED WITH HALLUCINOGENS

**Infected Mushroom**

Empire Ballroom • May 15

\$39.50 | Ticketmaster.ca

Erez Aizen and Amit Duvdevani are two classically trained Israeli musicians who just happen to have a decade’s worth of trance hits under their belts. After releasing six albums since 1999, the duo is now touring in support of last year’s release *Vicious Delicious*, but they’ve apparently been playing some brand-new tracks. With only three stops in Canada—here, Cowtown, and Creston, B.C. (who knew these were the trance caps of Canada?)—consider yourselves mighty lucky to have a go with these trippy shmooz.

LOCALS SPRINKLED WITH GERMAN

**Willkommen in Spreepark**

Transalta Arts Barns • May 22-24

\$15 | TIX, Blackbyrd, Megatunes

The story of Spreepark is more than a little confusing: the press release explains it’s a forsaken amusement park in Berlin, but also the name of a bygone local band. This year, Eric Cheng recruited a gaggle of newer, younger locals and got them to cover Spreepark (the band’s) old songs—the result was a flood of grant money and a weekend-long music and art installation at the Arts Barns, where many different interpretations of the story of Spreepark (the park) will apparently play out. Maybe it’ll all become clear then.

MUSIC PREVIEW • YUM ROCK • BY MATT HUBERT | 561 words

# Everybody Gets A Piece



Keep Refrigerated | It's the only way to keep your Cake fresh. And hopefully underplayed. PHOTO SUPPLIED

**THEY'VE BEEN AROUND FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS, BUT CAKE'S BRAND OF OFFBEAT POP ISN'T STALE JUST YET**

CAKE

May 16 (8pm), Edmonton Event Centre (WEM). Tickets: \$39.50, available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca).

Cake are infuriating.

Not in the sense that you shift uncomfortably in your seat every time

you hear too-well-known tunes like "Short Skirt/Long Jacket" or "Never There," but in the sense that it's shocking how, when it comes to annoyingly catchy, kooky anthems, so much can be done with so little.

Since 1991, Cake lead singer John McCrea's offbeat meditations (who knew "Friend Is a Four Letter Word" until McCrea told us so?) have leaned on surf guitars, walkabout basslines, horns, and strange percussion—all processed into radio-ready pop in-

sanity. It's hardly stadium rock, but for the number of oddball hits this Sacramento band has pulled off, it might as well be.

Now after that long run of dabbling in the far regions of the obtuse, things are about to change: the band's forthcoming record—their sixth—will be a horse of a slightly different colour.

"The songs on this one have become way more personal," says Cake's trumpet/keyboard wizard

Vincent DiFiore. "John's songs have always dealt more with the abstract, but this record won't be nearly as much. There's still a careful use of words, and the lyrics are interesting, but it's become less about abstract concepts."

It's a bold shift for a band that's lived on the strange and murky side of pop for nearly 20 years. But fans needn't be too worried: the band's website is a daily reminder of Cake's humble beginnings and the importance they place on remaining close to their fans. News bites on global climate change and poverty, video tributes to fitness guru Jack LaLanne, and a weekly advice column make up Cake's oddly cool fan-interactive environment. If anything, it's an extension of the spirit of the band's formative years.

"We started out very much a DIY, low-to-the-ground garage thing," says DiFiore, "and then came New York, interviews, a lot of hype around the band—we were walking on air a little bit. Now we're under the radar and low to the ground again. We've gone through many changes as musicians and things have come full circle. It's given us greater perspective, for sure."

After 18 years of radio play and ex-

tensive touring, Cake left Columbia Records and began their own label, Upbeat Records, in 2007. The label's first release was last October's compilation album *B-Sides and Rarities*—they even put out a limited edition featuring scratch 'n' sniff album art.

Maybe the gimmick isn't a Radiohead or Nine Inch Nails-style game changer, but at least Cake is aware they're going to have to be innovative if they want to keep reaching listeners. "Things are changing all the time," DiFiore says, "and we're constantly brainstorming. We've been watching what's happening [with other bands], but we want to concentrate on our record and do the best thing for the listener." Maybe an interactive game where you can dress the band members up in a variety of short skirts and long jackets?

In any case, DiFiore knows the band, and likely its fans, have matured along with Cake's catalogue. "I found some inspiration from being more naive," DiFiore laughs, thinking about Cake's early days. "But things are more thoughtful now... If you just keep focusing on the music, it's bound to happen. I hope we do it for a long time."



PER-SECOND BILLING.

# An Epic Metal Divorce



**Better Off Without The Drama** | The frontwoman may have changed, but the "soul" of Nightwish remains the same, says Holopainen (left). PHOTO SUPPLIED

## NIGHTWISH'S TUOMAS HOLOPAINEN TALKS ABOUT THE ALBUM AND THE SINGER THAT SAVED HIS LIFE

### NIGHTWISH

w/ Sonic Syndicate: May 16 (8pm), Starlite Room (10030-10251). Sold out.

Breakups are a nasty, shitty business.

Especially band breakups. Most especially when they're announced via a public, open letter on the band website, and result in a media fallout the likes of which a metal band has never seen before—in Fin-

land, anyway. When you live in a country whose population is a mere five million, word and rumour get around mighty, mighty fast. (Coincidentally, Finland also has the world's highest number of metal bands per capita. No joke: the Finns love their metal.)

Here's how it all played out. In 2005, after enjoying eight years of iconic status in the Eurocore scene, Nightwish founder Tuomas Holopainen and the other members of the band posted an open letter on their website sacking their diva frontwoman Tarja Turunen—a classically trained, operatic-style soprano. Predictably uproar ensued. Not

only was the band risking the loss of Turunen's not-insignificant fanbase, but they also had to prove Nightwish itself could survive as a live act without her theatrical presence anchoring the show.

"Tarja was so good at doing her own thing that we thought it would be no use to find a copycat," explains Holopainen. "If we would have found another operatic singer, she would have always been considered a copy, no matter how good she would be."

Enter Anette Olzon, the former singer for Alyson Avenue, a rock chanteuse whose mezzo voice represents a marked departure from Nightwish's previous sound. "The

idea was to find someone who would have the equal power to [Turunen's] voice in a totally different way, and I think Anette is doing that perfectly," Holopainen says.

But when you've established a strong fanbase in the metal community, never mind a legion of followers who drank up Turunen's gothic, symphonic vocals, bringing in an easy-on-the-ears rock singer could cause quite the upset. The band's first single following Turunen's departure, "Amaranth," has received more than a little flak from metal loyalists, who've accused the band of sounding too—ahem—"pop."

"You know there's nothing wrong with that," Holopainen says. "You can say it's a pop voice, or a rock voice. People have this weird urge to categorize everything. If a song sounds good, if it gives you emotions, that's all that matters. Who cares if it sounds pop or metal or black metal or whatever?"

"I mean, ['Amaranth'] made a really good first single because it's so annoyingly catchy. But it's a bit cheery and poppy, and overall when you listen to *Dark Passion Play* it's, in my opinion, the darkest material we've put out. It might give you the wrong impression of what the album is about."

Indeed, Holopainen wrote the new album in the months following Turunen's dismissal, and intended it as a requiem to the departed Turunen.

"I wrote all the songs when the media hassle and the drama was at its height," he says. "They were like the only haven for me to escape from all the crap. By far it was the most difficult thing that's ever happened in my life. But writing songs has never ever been so easy as it was this time. It might be a bit exaggerated to say that the album saved my life, but it was very close to that."

With 130 musicians on loan from The London Philharmonic Orchestra and The Metro Voices Choir, Nightwish entered Abbey Road Studios in London, and emerged with their 75-minute *Dark Passion Play* last September. The album, which holds the record for the most expensive album in Finnish history, went platinum in Finland the day of its release. (And remember: Finland's not that big, so everyone and their grandma in Helsinki knows all the lyrics already.)

As for the chemistry of the new lineup, Holopainen laughs at the drama of the past. "This is like a marriage between five people on wheels," he says. "You know, a relationship between two people is hard enough. But it feels like more of a band now, like there are five equals up there goofing around. It's a lot of fun. I hope we can keep this lineup together—at the end of this tour I won't have to start writing stupid open letters anymore."

Joking, Anette, he was joking.

## SEEN IT LIVE • GREAT GIGS YOU MISSED LAST WEEK



### PIANO SLUMP • SARAH SLEAN W/ ROYAL WOOD WINSPEAR CENTRE • MAY 8

Last Thursday's performance at the Winspear was proof that Royal Wood's quirky personality lives up to his name. Offering a refined set sprinkled with quick, dry wit between Buble-esque melodies, Wood put on a show whose emotional potency belied his modest demeanor.

Slean's cheeky following act couldn't have been more different from Wood's reserved string of tunes, as she filled in the gaps with facetious quips about breaking up, hope, and the time she spent living in Paris. Her theatrical energy and her ability to charm a roomful of people by comfortably shedding her shoes after her first song testified to Slean's immensely likable combination of intimacy and flirtatious silliness.

Although her show was a little repetitive (it seemed that every song ended with Slean slumping over the piano as if broken) she could definitely belt out the tunes, aided by a light-fingered touch at the piano and a great backing band (including sporadic appearances by Wood). Slean proved her live show amounted to more than just talk about love lost in the City of Lights.

CHRIS LEWIS

**Wunder Monday** | Tam Tam the Destroyer and Steve Hutchison of Sunset Six packed Wunderbar Monday, opening for Deadcity. Serpents, mixing rap, rock and reggae, even singing about Uganda and sandwiches! PHOTO BY FISH GRANKOWSKY

### OIL STAMPEY GETS AN INDOOR GIG THE DANIEL BENJAMIN BUXTON REVUE EMPRESS ALE HOUSE • MAY 12

From baby-faced busker to bearded wonder, we're all familiar with at least one of Daniel Buxton's many faces—we used to call him "Ol' Stampy." Matter of fact, you'd be hard-pressed to find somebody who hasn't seen him out on a Friday night in

front of the Army & Navy, belting out Chuck Berry like it was his last night on Earth.

Monday night's gig at the Empress showcased a new side of Edmonton's favourite street performer, backed by his shit-hot band, The Daniel Benjamin Buxton Revue. Buxton & Co. managed to reference everything that's great about early rock 'n' soul without sounding like some "'50s Come Alive" dinner theatre production your par-

ents dragged you to.

Organ helmer Samantha K. switched over to the sax for the group's '70s-flavoured numbers, while rhythm section Grant Dryden and Jenni Roberts held court on the bass and drums. Cold-sweatin' covers from James Brown to Joy Division, the group also plowed through two sets' worth of original material, which they're in the process of laying down at A1's Audio Re-

cording and Donair.

The night ended with a familiar (albeit indoor) solo set, with Buxton paying tribute to Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers' solid gold hit "Why Do Fools Fall in Love?" If this performance is any indication of what's to come for Buxton, his days of playing for loose change will soon be a distant memory.

TRAVIS SARGENT

MUSIC PREVIEW • UNMEDICATED! BY TRAVIS SARGENT | 130 words

# Our Rock 'N' Roll Lifer

**PAUL COUTTS HAS APPEARED IN COUNTLESS INCARNATIONS OVER THE YEARS. WHY, LOOK: HERE'S ANOTHER**

PAUL JAMES COUTTS AND CHAINS

w/ Ghostkeeper, Smokey, May 16 (8pm), Teddy's Palace (1181 Jasper Ave).

Edmonton has always been the kind of city musicians move away from, so it's a rare and pleasant surprise when our city gains another heart. Relocating from Calgary to Edmonton is like moving out of one frying pan and into... well, another frying pan, and unless you're here to reap the sticky rewards of our fleeting oilsands, it's hard to imagine why anyone would chose the City of

Champions over our more progressive neighbours to the west.

Well, maybe Calgary ex-pat Paul Coutts can shed some light on the situation. Years ago, during our late-night drives, Bryan Kulba would regale me with all sorts of stories about "Crazy" Paul Coutts and his time fronting Calgary post-punks The Primrods: these were tales of human skin masks, microphones sheathed in gun holsters, and \$150,000 recording contracts.

"The Primrods were a band that needed some kind of tension—it was very spring-fueled music," Coutts (or P5, as he was then known) tells me. "They were so ahead of their time it was retarded. Those guys, they hated everything. That was their motto.

Hate Rock Is Great Rock. We were like the premiers of hate rock."

Geffen Records picked the band up in the late '90s, and then dropped them, making them one of the many casualties of the Polygram/Universal merger. After their demise, Coutts went on to form bands like XL Birdsuit, The New 1-2, beloved local outfit Twin Fangs, and most recently, Paul James Coutts and Chains.

"I wanted to make the songs important instead of the concept of the band," Coutts explains. "It's a different approach, where the lyrics are what's important; you aren't really focusing on the riffs. It's like the blues or folk music, but it's not formatted like those commonly are."

And the blues come pretty easy to

Coutts these days. With the record industry drying up, independent bands are under constant financial strain. Throw the rising cost of living and skyrocketing gas prices into the mix and it's a miracle that young bands are able to tour at all.

"You can play *Guitar Hero* all year and download 8,000 songs and you think you know music, but it's hard to find the true believers," Coutts laments. "None of us are getting gold teeth. You play a show and get 50 bucks gas money, and hope you don't get your windows smashed or your gear stolen."

Despite the hard times, Coutts accepts his status as a rock 'n' roll lifer. "You just do what you've gotta do," he says. "I love this. There's nothing

else I'd rather be doing. Planning tours, getting rejected for grants. I love it all. I feel more comfortable onstage than I do at work or out on a Saturday night."

With a handful of shows scheduled throughout the summer, including this weekend's all-your-friends-are-gonna-be-there show at Teddy's and a coveted spot in his hometown's Sled Island Festival, it looks like Coutts will have plenty of time to do what he does best.

"I'm kinda proud that I've been unmedicated for 37 years, and I think that music has something to do with it," he says with a smile. "But other times I'm just like, 'Bring on the medication.'"



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Edmonton City Centre (kiosk)  
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Northgate Centre (kiosk)  
Sherwood Park Mall  
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Terwilliger Gardens

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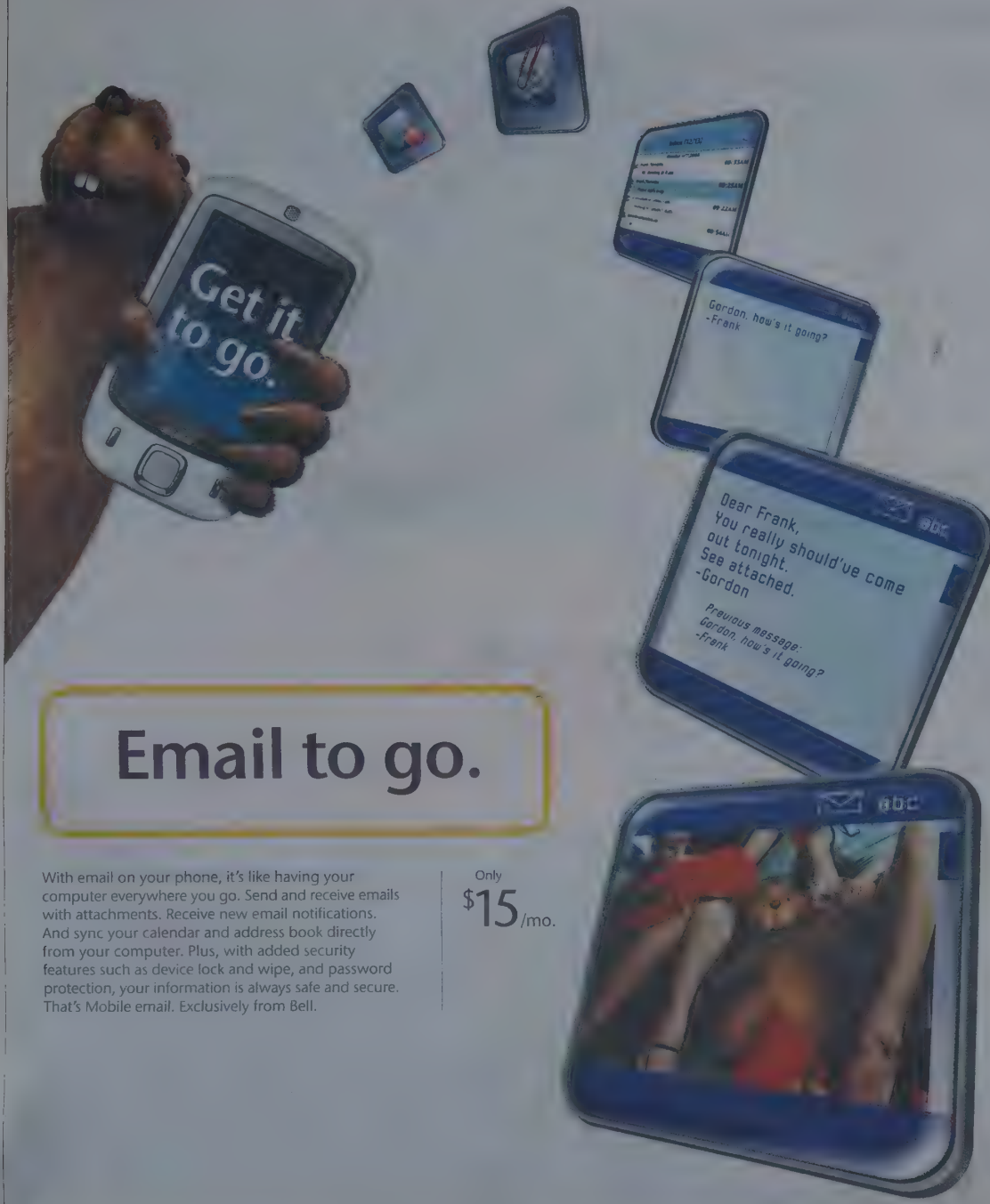
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# bike ISSUE

See Magazine's  
spring ode to  
two-wheeled  
heaven

**PG 27** Hot Wheels for 2008

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**PG 31** Our City's Cyclocross Samurai

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**2008**

SHOPPING GUIDE • BIKE HEAT • BY BENEDICTE MARTIN | 157 words

# You Feel The Need For...



**SPEED, RUGGEDNESS, COLOUR, STYLE, FOLDY-NESS?**  
**WHATEVER: EDMONTON'S BIKE RETAILERS INTRODUCE YOU TO YOUR NEW BIKE, 2008**

Whether you're a seasoned rider with thighs of steel, or a newcomer to the world of cycling, with thighs of soft, creamy butter, dozens of swanky new bikes are vying for your attention... and the attention of your solid or squishy quadriceps/hamstrings/glutes.

Ultra-light frames, versatility, baskets, brilliant colours, the ability to fold in five seconds... what you want, you can get.

Here are our experts' recommendations for The Coolest Bikes of Summer 2008.

**Aaron Birch**  
**Mechanic, Redbike**  
**FOR HARD THIGHS**

Sweet City (Steelwool Bicycle Co.)

Cost: \$1,050

**What makes it cool?**

It's a good-looking road bike, it looks retro, and it's especially popular with university students.

**If it were a celebrity, it'd be...**

Ellen Page: An edgy celeb with that smart, sassy Euro thing going on.

**FOR SOFT THIGHS**  
 Sovereign (Pashley Cycles)  
 Cost: \$1,300

**What makes it cool?**

Looks old-school, and it's a relaxed and easy-to-ride bike. It's friendly and great for people who haven't ridden much before but want style.

**If it were a celebrity, it'd be...**

Daniel Day-Lewis (guys' version)/Gwenyth Paltrow (women's version): Both are relaxed, friendly, and stylish.

**Alan Aronyk**  
**Owner, Revolution Cycle**  
**FOR THIGHS BOTH HARD AND SOFT**  
 Cruiser Line (Electra)  
 Cost: Low \$500s to \$1,000  
**What makes it cool?**

It's modeled after old-fashioned bikes and makes a real fashion statement: crazy colours, baskets, and big seats.  
**If it were a celebrity...**

Jesse James: It's flowery, hip, and makes a statement.

**Scott Osinchuk**  
**Owner/Manager, PedalHead**  
**FOR HARD THIGHS**

Trance 2 (Giant)

Cost: \$1,999

**What makes it cool?**

It's a dual suspension mountain bike, with five inches of travel. It's perfect for off road and trail, combo of light-weight and ultimate trail bike.

**If it were a celebrity, it'd be...**

Sidney Crosby: It can do everything

**FOR SOFT THIGHS**  
 VFR 4 (Norco)

Cost: \$799

**What makes it cool?**

It's perfect for E-Town because it rides well on roads and trails. It's a city or commuter bike with a mountain bike style frame and road-sized wheels. It's a hybrid, made by a Canadian company, and it's available in stylish colours.

**If it were a celebrity it'd be...**

Ben Stiller: Dependable, reliable, you know what you're going to get from it. It does everything—acting, directing, writing.

**Syd Jacklin**  
**Sales Manager,**  
**River Valley Cycle**  
**FOR HARD THIGHS**

Blur LT (Santa Cruz Bicycles)

Cost: \$3,000-\$5,000

**What makes it cool?**

It's got a new, revamped design, good durability. It was just released two weeks ago.

**If it were a celebrity it'd be...**

Brad Pitt: Because of its good looks.

**FOR SOFT THIGHS**

Cindercone (Kona)

Cost: \$949

**What makes it cool?**

It's got front suspension only with

sport-level drive train. It's great for newcomers to off road. It's low-maintenance and lots of fun.

**If it were a celebrity, it'd be...**

Jerome Iginla: Solid and reliable

**Mark Rumsey**  
**Owner/Manager, Hardcore**  
**Mountain Bike Store**  
**FOR HARD THIGHS**

Ibis Line (Ibis Cycles)

Cost: \$3,200 and up

**What makes it cool?**

It's got full carbon fibre, it's very light,

very strong, very efficient. It's a full suspension bike that looks great.

**If it were a celebrity, it'd be...**

Bruce Willis: An old company that reinvented itself as high-tech. Bruce has also reinvented himself to stay cool.

**FOR SOFT THIGHS**

Strida (Strida)

Cost: \$799

**What makes it cool?**

It folds, it's got a very elegant design, it's efficient, simple, and needs zero maintenance because it has a

belt drive (so you never have to oil the chain). And it comes in cool colours.

**If it were a celebrity, it'd be...**

Clara Hughes: The only Canadian to win Olympic medals at both Summer and Winter Olympics (in biking and speed skating). It's quirky, versatile, and cool.



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# Mercury

**INTERNET, SCHMINETNET: EDMONTON'S BIKE MESSENGERS STILL MAKE THE CITY HUM... SO PLEASE STAY OUT OF THE WAY**

**Tabi Chapman**  
Courier

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A BIKE COURIER?**

About six years.

**WHICH CAME FIRST: THE BIKE OR THE JOB?**

The job did, by about six months.

**WHAT IS THE PROPER WAY TO REFER TO A BIKE?**

As a bike. Neither male nor female, please.

**WHAT'S YOUR "RIDE"?**

My bike is a Cannondale. It's a single speed. I ride a 52/16. It weighs about 14 pounds. And it's a thing of beauty and a joy forever. It makes me look forward to going to work.

**WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?**

The finish had a lot to do with it. Also the weight of it and the fact that it has a flip-flop hub on the back so you can go fixie or with a freewheel.

**HAVE YOU MODIFIED IT?**

Not really—not except for taking off anything that I thought might be too heavy.

**WHAT'S YOUR FANTASY BIKE ADD-ON?**

I did change the chain ring a little bit. I think it came with a 42 on it so I switched that up right away.

**WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

That's a really good question. I'd like to say a willow tree. It's a whippy little number.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SHORTCUT?**

Can I say an entire Orbea Orca? That works for me. The entire new bike!

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE POTHOLE?**

Through Churchill Square.

**ARTS FUNDING OR POTHOLE?**

Arts funding. That hurt me too.

**WHAT IS THE MOST INTELLIGENT THING YOU'VE EVER SEEN A CIVILIAN DO ON A BIKE?**

Keep up with me.

**WHEN SOMEONE SEES A BIKE COURIER COMING THEY SHOULD...**

Keep doing what they're doing.

**IF YOU COULDN'T RIDE, YOU WOULD...**

Be living somebody else's life.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A BIKE COURIER?**

Coming up on eight years this summer.

**WHICH CAME FIRST: THE BIKE OR THE JOB?**

Definitely the bike.

**WHAT IS THE PROPER WAY TO REFER TO A BIKE?**

It's your "ride," "bicycle," "dream."

**WHAT'S YOUR "RIDE"?**

Louis Garneau Montreal '78. Fixed-gear track bike. One gear, no brakes.

**WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?**

It's just stupid fast. As you raise the danger, the fun gets exponentially higher and higher.

**HAVE YOU MODIFIED IT?**

I put flat bars on it instead of drops. Took off the pedals, put on a bigger crank and some bigger wheels.

**IF YOUR BIKE WERE A CELEBRITY/VEGETABLE/TV SHOW,**

**WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

The Simpsons or South Park because it's outrageous. It's re-donk-u-lous. It's so ridiculous, it's redonkulous.

**WHAT'S YOUR FANTASY BIKE ADD-ON?**

An electrified alarm system. I've had a couple of bikes stolen so it would be nice to have an alarm system that would electrocute anybody who touched my bike.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SHORTCUT?**

Centre lane traffic.

**FAVORITE POTHOLE?**

103rd just off Jasper. It ruined me a couple of months ago and I'm still wearing the scars from it.

**ARTS FUNDING OR POTHOLE?**

Potholes!

**WHAT IS THE MOST INTELLIGENT THING YOU'VE EVER SEEN A CIVILIAN DO ON A BIKE?**

Keep up with me.

**WHEN SOMEONE SEES A BIKE COURIER COMING THEY SHOULD...**

Keep up with me.

**IF YOU COULDN'T RIDE YOU WOULD...**

Work in a group home. That's my educational background. So once the knees and the backbone out, I'll fall back on my career.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A BIKE COURIER?**

Four years and a bit.

**WHICH CAME FIRST: THE BIKE OR THE JOB?**

The bike.

**WHAT IS THE PROPER WAY TO REFER TO A BIKE?**

"Trusty steed."

**WHAT'S YOUR "RIDE"?**

It's a vintage Norco road bike.

**WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?**

My brother-in-law bought two bikes off an old dude and one was too big. So I looked at it and fell in love with it and we traded.

**HAVE YOU MODIFIED IT?**

I took off all of the components. Left on a front brake. Switched up the wheel set and turned it into a fixed gear—just one gear.

**IF YOUR BIKE WERE A CELEBRITY/VEGETABLE/TV SHOW,**

**WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

I think it would be KITT from Knight Rider.

It's black, sleek, and sexy and it does what its told.

**WHAT'S YOUR FANTASY BIKE ADD-ON?**

Perhaps just a nice, swank coffee cup holder.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SHORTCUT?**

Any alley.

**FAVORITE POTHOLE?**

101 Ave and 76 St. There's a nice sweet pothole which is just the perfect length for a bunny hop.

**ARTS FUNDING OR POTHOLE?**

Potholes.

**WHAT IS THE MOST INTELLIGENT THING YOU'VE EVER SEEN A CIVILIAN DO ON A BIKE?**

Just ride it.

**WHEN SOMEONE SEES A BIKE COURIER COMING THEY SHOULD...**

Just keep on doing what you're doing because we're going to try and anticipate what you are going to do and what we would do.

So don't stop, don't make any quick movements. We got it covered.

**IF YOU COULDN'T RIDE YOU WOULD...**

That's tough. I have no answer. I've got to ride. Yeah, just got to ride.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A BIKE COURIER?**

Just under two and a half years.

**WHICH CAME FIRST: THE BIKE OR THE JOB?**

I rode before, a little bit, but more for commuting.

**WHAT IS THE PROPER WAY TO REFER TO A BIKE?**

A bike.

**WHAT'S YOUR "RIDE"?**

Old Faithful. I just keep going back to it and it treats me right.

**WHY DID YOU CHOOSE IT?**

The price was right and now I just feel comfortable on it.

**HAVE YOU MODIFIED IT?**

Everything. Everything's changed. It's now a fixed-gear.

**IF YOUR BIKE WERE A CELEBRITY/VEGETABLE/TV SHOW,**

**WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Say, Robert De Niro. A little bit of Raging Bull.

**WHAT'S YOUR FANTASY BIKE ADD-ON?**

A nice tray so I could carry boxes easier.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SHORTCUT?**

By the Omega Building between Double "O" and 99 Ave.

**FAVORITE POTHOLE?**

All of them in the alleys.

**ARTS FUNDING OR POTHOLE?**

Oh, potholes.

**WHAT IS THE MOST INTELLIGENT THING YOU'VE EVER SEEN A CIVILIAN DO ON A BIKE?**

I don't think I have ever seen a civilian do anything intelligent on a bike.

**WHEN SOMEONE SEES A BIKE COURIER COMING THEY SHOULD...**

Smile.

**IF YOU COULDN'T RIDE YOU WOULD...**

Walk.

# With Gears

PHOTO GALLERY • BY D. JEFFREY BUCHANAN | 1083 words

PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN (COVER PHOTO BY IAN JACKSON)



BIKE OPTIONS • **POSTURE MAKES PERFECT** • BY BENEDICTE MARTIN | 623 words

# Just Lie Back, Relax, And Make Like The Wind

**RECUMBENT BIKES ARE AMAZINGLY FAST AND COMFORTABLE. SO WHY DOESN'T ANYONE RIDE THEM?**

Joe Justus makes me feel like I'm five years old again.

He clutches the back of my bike seat, assuring me that I can do it. He asks if I'm ready; I tell him yes and slowly begin to pedal around the track outside United Cycle.

I pick up momentum. Joe warns he's letting go. I wobble. I tumble.

But after about two minutes of practice and only a few crashes into the nearby fence, like most newbies, I've mastered my balance.

Justus, the resident bike expert from United Cycle, isn't giving me remedial riding lessons. He's showing me how to pilot a recumbent bike, the best bike that almost no one rides.

Ever fantasized about being able to zip around town while stretched out on your favourite recliner? Recumbent bikes move the chain to the front wheel, allowing you to stretch your legs out in front; you sit

reclined and lower to the ground, a more aerodynamic position than any hunched-over-the-handlebars model offers.

But does it make that much of a difference? Well, it was good enough for Francis Faure, who in 1933 used a recumbent bike to travel a record-breaking 45,055 km in one hour. The International Cycling Union considers the aerodynamic shape an unfair advantage since 1934. recumbents have been prohibited from competing against uprights. All cur-

or bum. And he's 70!

So if recumbent bicycles are faster and more comfortable than uprights, why aren't they more popular?

Many believe they're more difficult to balance. In fact, just as with any bike, the trick is practice. In rare cases where balance remains an issue, Justus explains, outrigger wheels can be placed on either side.

Another apprehension is that recumbent bikes are dangerous. Because they're lower to the ground than uprights, there is a fear that



The Bacchetta Café | Get your back into it for about \$1,300. PHOTO SUPPLIED

**ONE THING'S FOR CERTAIN: RIDING A RECUMBENT BIKE IS SURE TO GARNER YOU LOTS OF ATTENTION. MY 20-MINUTE SPIN ELICITED MANY CHUCKLES FROM ONLOOKERS.**

rent speed records, climbing up over 80 km/h, are held by recumbents, vastly outpacing their more common cousins.

Recumbent bikes are also incredibly comfortable: Padded seats! Back rests! Legs extended! It's more like riding a La-Z-Boy on wheels. Even after a two-hour journey, Justus never complains of a sore neck, hands,

recumbent bikes are less visible to drivers. Hogwash, says Justus. As long as riders stick to the shoulder, he says, they aren't any more difficult to see. Nor is he worried about getting sucked under the transport trucks that pass him. In fact, he's been blown away—but not off his bike—by the courtesy of truckers and drivers in general. (For the record, Claire

Ellick from the City of Edmonton's Transportation Department confirms that there's no need to create additional safety rules for recumbent bicycles, although she says adding a flag would be a good idea.)

Justus speculates one reason we don't see more recumbents is that

because they're handmade, usually in North America. Justus maintains they're well worth the cost, and, he notes, upright bikes were once much more expensive too. "As more people ride them," he says, "more are manufactured and prices will decrease."

One thing's for certain: riding a recumbent bike is sure to garner you lots of attention. My 20-minute spin elicited many chuckles from onlookers. Justus feels the novelty of the recumbent bike is part of the attraction. Just the other day, some junior high kids shouted, "Hey! Cool bike, man!" as he rode by.

This year, Justus says, he's had more customers express an interest in recumbent bikes than ever before. And in his own experience, a brief ride is all it takes to convert a skeptic.

"I'll be riding my recumbent bicycle forever," he says.

MUNICIPAL ISSUES • **BRIDGING OUR DIFFERENCES** • BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT | 831 words

## Is Critical Political?



A Mass Uprising | Critical Mass participants want drivers to know the High Level is for bikes too. PHOTO SUPPLIED

**POLITICS OR PICNIC? CRITICAL MASS PARTICIPANTS ARE SHARPLY DIVIDED ON GOALS OF MONTHLY BIKE RIDE**

After work one cold Friday night at the end of April, I headed over to Chinatown with friends for tasty noodles and saucy conversation.

As we were walking past Churchill Square, a group of about a dozen cyclists passed us, enjoying the deserted downtown streets much more than we were. One friend wondered aloud if that small group was the longstanding Critical Mass bike ride.

In other cities around the globe, Critical Mass could never be mistaken for anything but a serious political demonstration. In New York, London, and Portland, Critical Mass events are huge, often displaying aggressive discontent that would be out of place with the laughing group of cyclists we encountered that night.

Edmonton's Critical Mass bike ride, held on the last Friday of every month, is a tamer and smaller affair. Winter rides regularly attract a dozen or so riders. In warmer months, up to 200 riders participate.

The group's website states their goals as "to meet and enjoy the security and companionship of riding through the city together, while helping to promote cycling/other means of non-polluting transportation."

But among the participants, perceptions of the goals and accomplishments of Critical Mass vary widely. There is no organized leadership: the lack of an overriding vision is part of the point. "Everybody rides for a different reason," says bike commuter Steve Anderson. The three-year Critical Mass participant says the group's goals include a combination of community-building and politics, while others like Keith Hallgren don't think Critical Mass is political at all.

**CRITICAL MASS cont'd pg. 31**

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CRAFT Zeo DE TO

INSPIRATION • WORLD BEATING • BY SARAH HOYLES | 657 words

# Quick Off the Starting Line

**CYCLOCROSS COMPETITOR  
AARON SCHOOLER GOT A LATE  
START, BUT HE RACED TO THE  
FRONT OF THE PACK**

Forget years of training. Forget the blood and the tears.

Sweat and road rash... some of each, maybe.

Nevertheless, it was only two years ago that twentysomething Aaron Schooler from Edmonton's Boonie Doon area decided to switch gears from bike commuter to bike racer. He entered some local races, and success quickly followed.

In his first year of racing, he picked up a second-place finish in the under-23 age category at the National Cyclocross Championships. That same season, in 2006, he also qualified and competed at Cyclocross Worlds in Belgium and finished 25th at the Road Race Nationals.

Cyclocross, Schooler says, is "a mix between road and mountain biking where you use road bikes that can take a beating. The bikes have knobby tires, so they can go over grass. The course is a closed loop of 2.5 to 3 kilometres with some places where you have to jump off your bike, run over barriers, and shoulder your bike to go up stairs."

Road racing, he says, requires less explanation. "It's going out and racing on the road, sometimes riding for up to six hours" with skinny tires and ultra-light bikes. (Schooler's road bike weighs in at a measly 16 pounds.)

In the 2007-2008 season, only his second competition year, Schooler continued his success. He placed second at the Alberta Provincial Mountain Bike Championships in the elite category. He finished fourth in the same category at Cyclocross Nationals, and competed in the Worlds Cyclocross circuit, with a 56th-place finish at the Worlds in Treviso, Italy.

For Schooler, riding his bike is as natural as, well, riding a bike. Whenever lofty heights he's attained, he started the same way we all do: pedaling as a kid, riding his bike to Capilano for school and out to Millwoods to referee soccer games. "My dad got me into it," he says. "I was always on his wheel."

His father never entered him into a race, but Schooler remembers ■ time when he boosted someone else's cycling career. "When I was maybe six or seven, my cousin came in from B.C. for a bike race. He borrowed one of my dad's bikes and my dad took him out to the race. I remember see-



Shouldn't He Be On Top? | Aaron Schooler humps his bike over barriers at the Cyclocross Worlds in Treviso, Italy. PHOTO BY JOE SALES

ing my dad have a huge smile on his face. I was jealous."

Schooler isn't jealous anymore. Nor does he regret his late start. He sees himself as lucky, having avoided burnout. "I'm glad I didn't start to race until now," he says. "I can still enjoy it.... In cycling, like most endurance sports, people peak later. Most don't get there until they're 30. So some guys are 30-32 before they're even thinking about retiring."

So what made Schooler change gears? It all came down to timing: he

had to wait for his schedule to open up. "I had been so busy," he says, "always going to school, and I was also in army reserves."

But after he graduated from NAIT and started a full-time job in downtown Edmonton as a mechanical designer, he was finally able to find time to train. "When I got the job," he says, "it was my first summer in the city. I was able to go to work, then when I was done I'd have time to train and race."

Consistent training time hasn't

been the only perk to his nine-to-five job; he also has a very supportive boss, who has given him the time off he needed to travel and compete at Worlds and even helped fund his trip to Belgium.

Let's hope his employer continues to support Schooler's ambitions, because he doesn't have plans to park his bike anytime soon. Racing season started two weeks ago, and Schooler has his eye on the Worlds in the spring.

## CRITICAL MASS (cont'd from pg. 30)

"I suggested that we call them Critical Kindness rides so that we can be polite to everybody," Hallgren says.

The line that divides the non-political participants and the more aggressive members of the group becomes clearest when the cyclists decide whether or not they are going to take up both lanes while crossing the High Level Bridge.

Jeff Davis, a bicycle road race organizer, is against it. "Taking two lanes," he writes via e-mail, "we piss off cars immediately behind the bike group who see the bikes and confuse cars further back who can't see them and don't know what the holdup is.... By taking one lane, we look more like responsible users of the road."

Andersen disagrees. He says taking up both lanes on the High Level Bridge is mostly about safety, and reminds drivers that bikes are allowed on the road too. "Think about it from the cyclists' point of view," he says. "People don't feel comfortable riding because motorists don't give us a lot of space. We are forced to take the side streets and go through all these stop signs."

For most drivers, Critical Mass represents a 30-second delay once a month. If cyclists take up both lanes on the bridge, the delay is about two minutes. Drivers can't be too pissed off; no complaints have reached the Citizen Action Centre about the rides-cum-demonstrations.

Still, just about everyone in Critical Mass feels the ride has an aware-

ness-raising element to it. Anderson would like to see the group put on more of a political push.

"There's a lot of good work going on, but there is a heck of a lot that could be done," he says, citing the slow return of bike racks as an example of how the city treats cyclists like second-class citizens. "A lot of people at City Hall see bicycling as a form of recreation, and not a commuting option, [but] for a lot of people, by choice or by necessity, cycling is a primary form of transportation."

The city's neglect, Anderson says, becomes particularly evident in the winter, when it can take the city over a day to clear bike paths. "Can you imagine if the Whitemud wasn't cleared for 24 hours?"

Not everyone agrees that Edmonton cyclists face such steep obstacles. According to Hallgren, Edmonton is "one of the best cycling cities in North America," adding that Edmonton has a large number of bike commuters. (About one per cent of Edmontonians bike to work, according to Statistics Canada, comparable to Toronto and Montreal rates.)

But even people who do think Edmonton needs to improve aren't too concerned about the apolitical nature of Critical Mass.

"Bikes get a pretty crappy deal when it comes to the city," says Critical Mass cyclist Alex Hindle, "but I don't think people are under the impression that what they are doing is going to change things."

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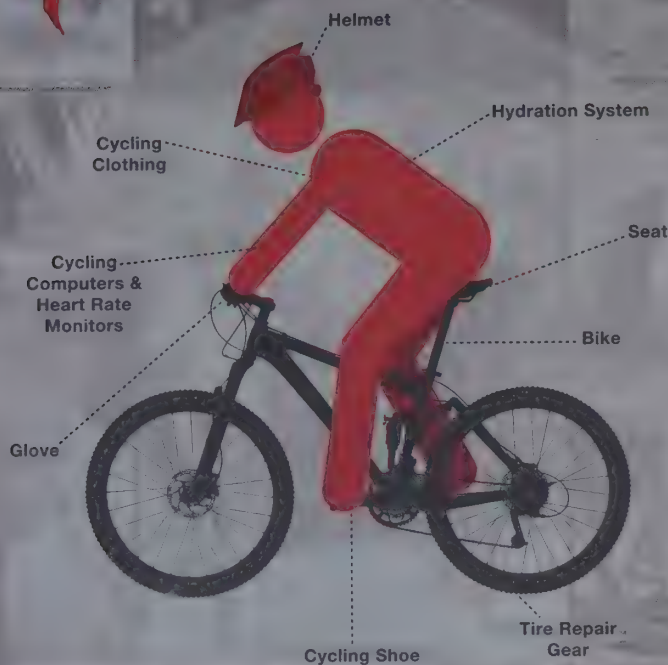
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MUSIC PREVIEW • STRANGE PROG • BY SCOTT LINGLEY | 571 words

# Don't Play With Soothsayers



Don't Tempt The Devil, Mama Said | The Mars Volta's arcane hobbies almost landed them in Bedlam. PHOTO SUPPLIED

**THE OUIJA BOARD THAT NEARLY DESTROYED THE MARS VOLTA LIES BURIED IN AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION—HOPEFULLY FOREVER**

## THE MARS VOLTA

May 22 (8pm). Edmonton Event Centre (WEM). Tickets: \$39.50, available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca).

A phone call to Omar Rodríguez-López inevitably finds the guitarist-producer and creative impetus behind neo-prog juggernaut The Mars Volta

hard at work. Even in a hotel room in Tulsa, Oklahoma in the midst of the band's headlining North American tour, Rodríguez-López is mapping out the music that will constitute the followup to the band's most recent album, *The Bedlam in Goliath*, as well as material that could land on a solo album or perhaps one of his soundtrack projects.

"I write every day on the off-days and I have my own portable recording rig that I set up in my hotel room," he says—without a trace of mirth. "I don't have a life."

It's easy to believe there's a solid work ethic behind The Mars Volta's dense, epic studio work, but *The Bedlam in Goliath* required an especially stalwart level of devotion, at least according to the legend that's grown up around its birth pangs. The trouble started when Rodríguez-López bought a Ouija board for his longtime creative partner, vocalist Cedric Bixler-Zavala, at a curio shop in Jerusalem. Initially a source of fun among band members while on tour, the Soothsayer, as the board became known, allegedly started to exercise a pernicious influence upon them, giving prophecies and suggestions and making demands. Soon after, a series of misfortunes befell various band members: drummer Blake Fleming quit in the middle of a tour with the Red Hot Chili Peppers; Rodríguez-López's home studio was nearly destroyed by a flood; Bixler-Zavala needed foot surgery and had to relearn how to walk; tracks recorded for *Bedlam* suddenly vanished without a trace; and the studio engineer working on the album had a nervous breakdown, leaving Rodríguez-López with an incoherent mess of recorded material that required months to untangle.

In an effort to undo the apparent curse brought on by goofing with the dark forces embodied by the Soothsayer, the guitarist buried the board in an undisclosed location and forbade band members to talk about it

for the remainder of production.

Rodríguez-López says time has given them some perspective on matters. "This record now is a year old for us, so that's plenty of time for things to change and grow and develop and become something else and look back on it and have a different idea about it. And also my head is somewhere else now, since I've been working on the new record and everything."

And though he's elbow-deep in writing material for the next album and whatever other projects his current work splinters into—he's currently at work on 23 new songs, some of which the band has included in their live show—Rodríguez-López says he has no problem going onstage every night and revisiting the music that arose from such a dark period and nearly tore the band apart.

"The music in its live form is exactly that—it's live, it's living, it's something completely different from the stale, cold, boring representation that it is when you make a record," he says. "It's two completely different worlds. Right after I was done mixing and mastering, I didn't want to play it, I just wanted to move straight into record #5. I didn't want to talk about it or have anything to do with it. And then time passes—what's the cliché saying? 'Time heals all wounds'—and you just sort of pull the stick out of your ass and get on with it."

## MUSIC BRIEFS



### DOUBLE-HEADER

#### CANADIAN GIRLS, KICKING ASS

JANE VAIN & THE DARK MATTER w/ Ghost Bees. May 16 (8pm). Velvet Underground (1000-1025). Tickets: \$10 at the door.

Nesting birds, short skirts, budding flowers, hay fever, nine o'clock sunsets, legions of meth dealers on tenspeeds, barbecues, and tanning beds. Spring has arrived! What better way to end seven months of hibernation than a live show? This Friday

■ freshly renovated Velvet Underground plays host to two promising fem-led groups. Halifax's Ghost Bees, and Calgary's Jane Vain and the Dark Matter. With her low, breathy voice, **Jane Vain** (known to her friends as Jamie Fooks) sounds like Brigitte Bardot on ludes. Fooks' home recording project cum full-time band recently debuted the masterful *Love Is Where the Snake Is* on Edmonton's Rectangle Records, and have been busy touring the country since its release. Toy xylophones tinkering over dissonant electronics bring to mind Blonde Redhead or Arab Strap, and with Vain cooing over it, you'll wish that every song was written about you.

They're playing a handful of dates at next month's Nextfest, but their haunted sound lends itself more to a dark bar than it does to Churchill Square's parking-lot aesthetics, so catch 'em Friday after the sun goes down. TRAVIS SARGENT

MUSIC BUZZ • MUNICIPAL HAPPENINGS | 605 words

# The Rumours Are True, Uncas Fans



**WILDLIFE FISHGRIWKOWSKY SEAN BREWER SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT, AND WE FINALLY GET THE CHANCE TO ENJOY SOME SUN**

"Do you want the official answer or the unofficial answer?" Sean Brewer asks on a warm night—the question being the current state of *The Uncas*, and whether the band has packed it in for keeps. Rumours are everywhere. "We've been married to each other for six years now," the friendly fuzziest continues. "It's kind of nice to have your life back; kind of nice to have a break."

Hm. "Break." Double meaning there, one part meaning "vacation," the other "jagged tibia sticking out through your shin." Finally, he uses

the words "on hiatus," leaving the medicine cabinet closed, certainly, but unlocked. "We're all working on solo projects now."

For the multi-instrumentalist, that means two separate projects that could easily guest star on *The Muppet Show*: the hirsute McGowan Family Band, who always know when it's 4:20, and a band full of his own family, The Brewer Boys, with dad Gary and brother Aldon filling up the stage. The Uncas will be finishing off all their commitments, of course. This will leave Mark Feduk to his dreamy, New Romantic Red Ram, too.

I have a special place in my heart for these boys. They once cut a line up most of the province to play a mushroomy bush party o' mine, and it's hard to imagine North Country Fair without them and their half-naked teenage fans. But, as George Harrison once said, "I'm dead now." No, wait, it was actually "All things must pass," which he probably stole from the Bible and later settled out of court.

Meanwhile, inside Wunderbar, a rather pungent yet awesome show railed on through the big windows, as *Sunset Six* opened for the hard-rocking Deadcity Serpents. Their drummer Nikabrik is one of the best in Edmonton. *Sunset Six* really caught my ear, though—23-year-old singer Tam Tam the Destroyer rapping her way over dub/rock as the line between crowd and band dissolved thanks to empty pint glasses big enough to have twins in without spilling a drop. Their drummer was hilariously called an "old man" for turning 25 on the spot, and there was a frantic and unpolished basement vibe all night, one which reminded me of a WWII gig approximately 103 years ago on the north side.

Jenny from the Sun ran around taking snaps and pseudonyms for her photo column, and I must say it's nice to be at a gig with the door open onto the street again. Winter, go fuck yourself.

Finally, a note on what turned out not to be a Blues War on our avenues. Thank God—imagining the un-

forms gives me nightmares. CKUA had originally protested a bid from Ontario to start an all-blues station in our working-class, filthy-rich city, which caused local player Jeremy Loomie to raise an understandable stink, as a supporter of both the existing and proposed station. I asked him if there was an update: "Actually, yes, I got into an e-mail debate over this with Ken Regan, the GM at CKUA, and pointed out that they'd be better selling their existing blues shows to this station if it comes in and cross-promoting two small indies rather than slugging it out.

"After a few more e-mails, both sides agreed, and CKUA said it will withdraw or significantly amend its intervention—to merely be its correction of several points on record—if the Ontario firm can come to a preliminary arrangement about shared content and promotion that pleases both sides.

"So," he concludes, "fingers crossed at this point."

Is that a banana I see in your boxers, blues fans?

Critics are abuzz about twin telepaths (no joke) Romy and Sam Lightman: the cooey, incomparably eerie duo known as **Ghost Bees** have carved out a name for themselves with their Joanna-Newsum-surrounded-by-chamber-pop twist on East Coast folk.

Their debut album, *Tasseomancy*, is a swirling concept-driven record produced by Youth Club Records' Andy March, pairing guitar and mandolin with the twins' expert spookiness. The story begins with a figure known to them as "The Grandmother," a turn-of-the-20th-century tea-leaf reader rendered madd by ill fortune. Through tasseomancy—divination by tea leaves—the girls relate transcendental experiences like their own birth ("Sina"), and brace yourself, living through the Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia ("Tassie Ogre Heart"). Ooooh.

From there on out, things just get stranger—but it's all part of Ghost Bees' unique spin on folk storytelling. After a series of successful tours across Canada and a few notable performances in the United States, the Lightmans, along with violinist Amber Phelps Banderoff, are taking their literary-leaning pop westward with the hopes of gaining more even more attention. If I were Tegan and Sara, I'd sure be scared. MATT HUBERT



## HIGHLIGHT • A TASTE OF HONEY



R&B Royalty | Donald Ray Johnson has made his home in Calgary. of all places. PHOTO SUPPLIED

### Donald Ray Johnson • May 16-17 • Yardbird Suite

San Diego ex-pat and one time A Taste Of Honey Grammy winner Donald Ray Johnson has played with some of the greatest blues and R&B artists along the west coast, including (but not limited to) Percy Mayfield, Lowell Fullins, Joe Houston, Charles Brown, Big Joe Turner, and Smokey Wilson. He'll be joined by PJ Perry on sax, and his band.

## LIVE MUSIC

### THURSDAY

#### BLUES & ROOTS

ROB HEATH HILBERTS  
TIM WILLIAMS BLUES ON WHYTE w/ Big Dave McLain.

#### JAZZ

DANILUK & CARD YARBIRD SUITE w/ Redwall Music.  
DARRYL MEYER FOUR ROOMS  
LORNA LAMPMAN JEFFREY'S CAFE  
POP & ROCK

JASON GREELEY ATLANTIC TRAP AND GILL  
THEANEAM KROHN URBAN LOUNGE

#### DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

ALI SHAHEED MUHAMMAD HALO LOUNGE  
DI HARRY JAMES THE DOCKS Every Thursday.  
I LOVE BOB NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE w/ Dexter Nebula & Anarchy Adam. Every Thursday.

HIGHER LEVEL THURSDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Drum & bass w/ DJ's Dreadnought, PhatCat, MC Enlite, and guests. Every Thursday.

JUNIOR BROWN RED STAR Every Thursday.  
MIA FELLOW BUDDY'S w/ DJ West Coast Baby-Daddy. Every Thursday.

SALSA STYLE THURSDAYS THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE Every Thursday.  
URBAN SUBSTANCE THURSDAYS GINGER SKY LOUNGE w/ Urban Substance Sound Crew. Every Thursday.

#### EDM

#### ALTERNATIVE

JEZIBELLE RENDEZVOUS PUB w/ Stone Iris and A Fistful of Nice.  
YOUTH EMERGENCY SHELTER BENEFIT THE STUDIO AT MEAD HALL w/ Powerful, White Summer, and Demasus.

#### BLUES & ROOTS

AUTOMATA BLUES BAND BLUE CHAIR CAFE  
KALEY BIRD STEEPS OLD GLENORA  
LAURIE MOHACY FRESH START BISTRO w/ Bruce Mohacy.  
MATT HALTON CARROTS ARTS COFFEEHOUSE  
MISTER LUCKY WHISTLETOP LOUNGE  
PATSY AMKO AND BRIAN GREGG TRIO X-WRECKS  
TIM WILLIAMS BLUES ON WHYTE w/ Big Dave McLain.  
TREVOR TCHIR CAFE LEVA

#### JAZZ

DARRYL MEYER FOUR ROOMS  
DONALD RAY JOHNSON YARBIRD SUITE w/ PJ Perry  
MARLEIGH & MUELLER HILBERTS

#### POP & ROCK

BAD JUDGEMENT ON THE ROCKS  
CAT SASS CASINO YELLOWHEAD  
JANE VAIN & THE DARK MATTER VELVET UNDERGROUND w/ Ghost Bles  
JASON GREELEY ATLANTIC TRAP AND GILL  
LINE OF SIGHT URBAN LOUNGE  
MADISON DRIVE CASINO EDMONTON  
PEN 24 EDDIE SHORTS  
SHOGEN LB'S PUB  
THIS GIRL, THAT BOY CARROTS ARTS COFFEEHOUSE

#### DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

BITCH BITCH BITCH NEW CITY SUBURBS Every Friday.  
CONNECTED FRIDAYS THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE Local house & International guest DJs. Every Friday.  
DJ CLAY STONEHOUSE PUB Every Friday.  
DJ EDDY TOMFLASH BUDDY'S Every Friday.  
DJ LOOSE CANNON IRON HORSE Every Friday.  
DJ SHANNINBOS ON THE ROCKS Every Friday.  
FORBIDDEN FRIDAYS EMPIRE BALLROOM Every Friday.  
FORMULA FRIDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE DJ Groovy Cury, DJ Fucose Every Friday.  
FRIDAY NIGHT FREAK OUT NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE w/ Anarchy Adam and G-Whiz. Every Friday.  
JUNO DJ SUELEN LOUNGE Every Friday.  
THE MOD CLUB HALO Soul, R&B, indie, Brit pop, new wave, reggae & classic punk. DJs Blue Jay & Tissy D. Every Friday.  
NEON NIGHTS FLUID Every Friday.  
RED FRIDAYS THE DOCKS Military appreciation night. Every Friday.  
ROCK THE GLOBE WEEKENDS GLOBE TAP BAR & GRILL Every Friday.  
SEXY FRIDAY 180 DEGREES Reggae and Top 40 w/ Generation INEVEX & DJ G-Unit. Every Friday.



#### ALTERNATIVE

HAUNTED ATTIC EDDIE SHORTS  
First Aid Kit  
CITY OF SAILS THE STUDIO AT MEAD HALL w/ Lions For Sheep, The Special Guests, Dead River Wasteland, and Astave.

#### BLUES & ROOTS

MISTER LUCKY 18 & 3  
TIM WILLIAMS BLUES ON WHYTE w/ Big Dave McLain

#### JAZZ

DARRYL MEYER FOUR ROOMS  
DONALD RAY JOHNSON YARBIRD SUITE w/ PJ Perry

#### POP & ROCK

BAD JUDGEMENT ON THE ROCKS  
CAT SASS CASINO YELLOWHEAD  
THE END CREDITS VELVET UNDERGROUND w/ Brazilville.  
Ghost House and Mattress.  
JASON GREELEY ATLANTIC TRAP AND GILL  
LINE OF SIGHT URBAN LOUNGE  
MADISON DRIVE CASINO EDMONTON  
THE RED DEERS IRISH CLUB  
SHOGEN LB'S PUB

#### DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

ATHLETES' NIGHT RATTI w/ DJ Knees. Every Saturday.  
DJ CLAY STONEHOUSE PUB Every Saturday.  
DJ HOT PHILLY RED STAR Every Saturday.  
DJ NIC-E SHUDE LOUNGE Every Saturday.  
FOR THOSE WHO KNOW HALO House w/ Junior Brown, Luke Morrison, and Nestor Delano. Every Saturday.  
THE MENACE SESSIONS THE BLACK DOG w/ Miss Mannered. Every Saturday.  
OH SNAP! THE TEMPLE Degree & All Out DJs. Every Saturday.  
PLANET INDIGO SUGGESTIVE SATURDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Breaks, electro, house, spun by PI residents. Every Saturday.  
RED CARPET SATURDAYS EMPIRE BALLROOM Every Saturday.  
ROCK THE GLOBE WEEKENDS GLOBE TAP BAR & GRILL Every Saturday.  
SATURDAYS SUCK NEW CITY w/ Greg Gory and Blue Jay. Every Saturday.  
SUGGESTIVE SATURDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Every Saturday.  
URBAN DANCE PARTY IRON HORSE w/ DJ AZO. Every Saturday.

ALTERNATIVE  
BROADCAST ZERO EDDIE SHORTS w/ Brother Voodoo, The Dally, and The Horny Corners.

#### BLUES & ROOTS

THE HARDLINE BLUES BAND B-STREET BAR AND GRILL

#### DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

DI RUDY ELECTRO BUDDY'S House, progressive, trip-hop. Every Sunday.  
GET TO GIVE IT UP BLACK DOG w/ DJ Red Dawn. Every Sunday.  
HOUSE ARREST STUJIS w/ Johnny Dangerous, Andy Inertia, and guests. Every Sunday.

#### ALTERNATIVE

DERELICT THE STUDIO AT MEAD HALL w/ Adolyn and Vivisect.  
THRASTIC FIBROSIS FILTHY MONASTY'S w/ Tarantula.

#### BLUES & ROOTS

MCQUAIG BLUES ON WHYTE

#### DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

DI RUDY ELECTRO BUDDY'S Every Monday.  
ELECTRIC NONSENSE BLACK DOG w/ Confederacy of Dunces, Dead Rock, TI Hookah, and Rear Admiral Sounders.

## COMING

MAY 16 — CAKE. PAPER LIONS Edmonton Event Centre  
MAY 16 — NIGHTWISH. SONIC SYNDICATE Starlite Room  
MAY 18 — CLIMBY LOVERS Velvet Underground  
MAY 18 — KIDS IN THE HALL Jubilee Auditorium  
MAY 19 — GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS Winspear Centre  
MAY 19 — STEPHEN KELLOGG AND THE SIKERS Winspear Centre  
MAY 20 — DIANA ROSS Jubilee Auditorium  
MAY 20 — DOC WALKER Winspear Centre  
MAY 20 — LADYTRON DATAROCK Starlite Room  
MAY 22 — LE MYSTERE DES VOIX BILGARES McCowgall United Church  
MAY 22 — THE MARS VOLJA Edmonton Event Centre  
MAY 23 — COHEED AND CAMBRIA Edmonton Event Centre  
MAY 24 — ARCH ENEMY. DARK TRANQUILITY. DIVINE HERESY. FIREWIND Starlite Room  
MAY 24 — THE HIVES Edmonton Event Centre  
MAY 24-25 — NEVERTHELESS. THOUSAND FOOT CRUTCH Northlands  
MAY 25 — TAJ MAHAL. THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA Winspear Centre  
MAY 26 — POISON THE WELL. KILLSWITCH ENGAGE. THROVDOWN Edmonton Event Centre  
MAY 27 — M.I.A. Edmonton Event Centre  
MAY 27 — RUSH Rexall Place  
MAY 31 — CITY AND COLOUR. SLEEPER CAR Jubilee Auditorium  
MAY 31 — JUSTIN RUTLEDGE. KATHLEEN EDWARDS Starlite Room  
MAY 29 — KANYE WEST. RIHANNA. LUPE FIASCO. N.E.P.T. Rexall Place  
JUN 3 — THE BIRTHDAY MASSACRE. MINOLES SELF-INDULGENCE. FAKA SHARK REAL. ZOMBIE Starlite Room  
JUN 3 — TOM JONES Jubilee Auditorium  
JUN 7 — ISLANDS Starlite Room  
JUN 6 — IRON MAIDEN Rexall Place  
JUN 8 — K.D. LANG Jubilee Auditorium  
JUN 11 — THE JEALOUS GIRLFRIENDS. SEA WOLF Velvet Underground  
JUN 13 — PAUL BRANDT Shaw Conference Centre  
JUN 13 — LOCAL H Starlite Room  
JUN 15 — CRAIG FERGUSON Winspear Centre  
JUN 19-20 — CIRQUE DU SOLEIL "SALTIMBANKO" Rexall Place  
JUN 20 — CRASH KELLY. GILBY CLARK Metro Billiards  
JUN 21 — MATTHEW GOOD Jubilee Auditorium  
JUN 24 — PINK MARTINI Winspear Centre  
JUN 25 — THE NATIONAL PARCS Velvet Underground  
JUL 4 — BLUE OYSTER CULT Century Casino  
JUL 7 — MARK KNOPFLER Jubilee Auditorium  
JUL 7 — ASHES DIVER Starlite Room  
JUL 11 — KID ROCK Rexall Place  
JUL 11 — STAMPEDERS Century Casino  
JUL 12 — JAMES TAYLOR Rexall Place  
JUL 13 — 50 CENT Shaw Conference Centre  
JUL 17 — BRIAN BYRNE Dinwiddie Lounge  
JUL 17 — THE BLACK CROWES Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium  
JUL 22 — NICK GILDER Churchill Square  
JUL 25 — KASKADE Bank Ultralounge  
JUL 26 — SERENA RYDER Winspear Centre  
JUL 27 — JUDAS PRIEST Shaw Conference Centre  
JUL 27 — THE COMBES. COLIN BLOOM. ROD ARGENT Century Casino  
JUL 28 — NINE INCH NAILS Rexall Place  
JUL 29 — COLDPLAY Rexall Place  
AUG 12 — TOM PETTY & THE HEARTBREAKERS. STEVE WINWOOD Rexall Place  
AUG 13 — MOTLEY CRUE. PAPA ROACH. BUCKCHERRY Rexall Place  
AUG 29 — OASIS. RYAN ADAMS Rexall Place  
SEP 5 — ALL AMERICAN REJECTS. FABER DRIVE. SIMPLE PLAN Rexall Place  
SEP 9 — SANTANA Rexall Place  
SEP 14 — DAVE STEWART Winspear Centre  
SEP 16 — NEIL DIAMOND Rexall Place  
SEP 21 — BONNIE TYLER Festival Place  
SEP 27 — ELITE COOPER Jubilee Auditorium  
OCT 4 — GARNET ROGERS Queen Alexandra Hall  
OCT 16 — FEST Rexall Place  
OCT 20 — ENIGMABEST HUMPERDINK Winspear Centre  
OCT 24-25 — CELINE DION Rexall Place  
NOV 5 — IAN TYSON Winspear Centre  
NOV 21 — KENNY ROGERS Rexall Place  
NOV 23 — ERIC BIBB Winspear Centre  
NOV 27 — THE BARBRA MACNEILS Myer Horowitz

## VENUE GUIDE

180 DEGREES RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB 10730-107 AVE. 414-0233  
ARDEN THEATRE #5 ST. ANNE ST., ST. ALBERT 459-1542  
THE ARTERY 9535 ASPEN AVE.  
ATLANTIC TRAP & GILL 704-104 ST. 432-4671  
AVENUE SKATEPARK 300-118 AVE. 477-2149  
AXIS CAFE 10349 JASPER AVE. 990-0031  
BACKDRAUGHT PUB 8307-99 ST. 430-9200  
BAR WILD 10551 WHYTE AVE. 432-0814  
BELL & COURT PUB 200-104 MAIN BLVD. SHERWOOD PARK 464-1326  
BLACK DOG 10425-82 AVE. 439-1082  
BLIND PIG #2 ST. ANNE ST., ST. ALBERT 418-6332  
BLUE CHAIR CAFE 9624-76 AVE. 989-2861  
BLUES ON WHYTE 10329-82 AVE. 439-5058  
B-STREET BAR 11818-111 AVE. 414-0545  
BUDDY'S 11725B JASPER AVE. 488-7736  
BUBB'S LOUNGE CAPILANO MALL 98 AVE. & 50 ST. 469-5588  
CAFÉ LEVA 11051-86 AVE. 479-5382  
CAFÉ BRITTY 120 MCLEOD AVE. SPOURCE GROVE 962-2511  
THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE 9351-118 AVE. 471-1580  
CASTLEDOWNS PUB 16753-100 ST. 457-7111  
CASINO EDMONTON 1055 ARGYLL RD. 483-9467  
CASINO YELLOWHEAD 12464-153 ST. 424-9467  
CENTURY CASINO 13103 FORT RD. 643-4000  
CHIMMY'S 8704-144 AVE. 478-1770  
CHRISTOPHER'S PARTY PUB 2021 MILLBOURNE RD. 462-6565  
CLIFF'S PUB & PANTRY 8724-175 ST. 487-8887  
COCOQ 10160-1004 ST. 425-1777  
COAST TO COAST PUB 5552 CALGARY TRAIL. 439-8675  
CROWN & ANCHOR PUB 1527 CASTLEDOWNS RD.

JET NIGHTCLUB & SPORTS LOUNGE 9221-34 AVE. 466-6552  
JOHN L. HAAR THEATRE 10045-155 ST. CENTRE FOR THE ARTS. 497-4340  
J.R. GRILL & BAR 3901-106 ST. 436-4403  
JUGS PUB 1450-82 AVE. 465-4046  
JULIAN'S PIANO BAR CHATEAU LOUIS, 1177 KINGSWAY AVE. 459-7770  
KEEP IT SIMPLE (KIS) CLUB 11720-82 ST. 471-4705  
KNIGHTS PUB 1189-105 ST. 461-0587  
LB'S PUB 21 AKINS DR., ST. ALBERT. 460-9100  
THE LOCKER ROOM 10209-100 AVE. 471-8892  
MCDOUGALL UNITED CHURCH 10025-101 ST. 428-1810  
MEGALITHS 10355-82 AVE. 434-6342  
METRO BILLIARDS 10250-106 ST. 990-0704  
MOJO'S PLACE 1105-88 AVE. FORT SASK. 492-0505  
MONA LISA PUB 9606-118 AVE. 477-7752  
MORANGO'S TEK CAFE 10118-79 ST. 450-9906  
MURRIET'S 10612-82 AVE. 439-4100  
MUTTART HALL ALBERTA COLLEGE, 10050 MACDONALD DR. 497-5040  
NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR 10354 JASPER AVE. 425-9730  
NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL 6108-90 AVE. 490-1999  
NEW CITY 10081 JASPER AVE. 429-CLUB  
NIKITA'S 10162-1004 ST. 414-0606  
NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY LEAGUE 12355-1094 AVE. 452-6610  
O'BRYEN'S IRISH PUB 10616-82 AVE. 414-6766  
ON THE ROCKS 1740 JASPER AVE. 482-4767  
THE OVERDRIVE 6104-104 ST. 439-9485  
THE PAVIN SHOW 1181-82, 10551-82 AVE. 432-0814  
PEPPERS 320 WESTMOUNT CENTRE, 113 AVE. & 135 ST. 451-8022  
PLEASANTVIEW HALL 10860-57 AVE. 434-2870  
QUEEN ALEXANDRA HALL 10425 UNIVERSITY AVE.

439-9046  
RAMADA SOUTH 5359 CALGARY TRAIL 434-3431  
RATTI 7TH FL. SUB. U OF A CAMPUS 492-7153  
RENDEZVOUS 10108-149 ST. 444-1822  
ROBERT TEGLER STUDENT CENTRE 7128 ADA BLVD., CONCORDIA CAMPUS. 499-8481  
THE ROCK PUB #570 ST. ALBERT RD. 458-5571  
ROSARIO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL 1775-108 AVE. 447-4727  
ROSE & CROWN PUB 10235-101 ST. 426-7827  
ROSIE'S BAR & GRILL 10475-80 AVE. 439-7271  
SNEAKY PETE'S 12115-118 AVE. 457-7770  
STARLITE ROOM 10030-102 ST. 428-1099  
ST. BASIL'S CULTURAL CENTRE 10819-17 AVE. 438-6410  
STEEPS OLD GLENORA 12411 STONEY PLAIN RD. 488-1505  
STEEPS TEA LOUNGE COLLEGE PLAZA, 1116-82 AVE. 988-8105  
STRATHEARN STEAK & PIZZA LOUNGE 9514-87 ST. 465-5478  
THE STUDIO & MEAD HALL 10940-166A ST.  
THE TAPHOUSE 9020 MCKENNEY AVE. ST. ALBERT, 458-0880  
TEDDY'S PALACE 11361 JASPER AVE. 488-0984  
TOUCH OF CLASS GAMING ROOM CHATEAU LOUIS, 1177 KINGSWAY AVE. 452-7770  
TWILIGHT AFTERHOURS 10018-105 ST. 990-1772  
URBAN LOUNGE 10544 WHYTE AVE. 437-7699  
VELVET UNDERGROUND 10030-102 ST. 428-7827  
WHISTLETOP LOUNGE 12416-132 AVE. 451-5506  
WINDSOR BAR AND GRILL 1172-87 AVE. 433-7800  
WINSPEAR CENTRE 64 CHURCHILL SQUARE 428-1434  
WUNDERBAR HOFBRÄUHAUS 8170-101 ST. 436-2286  
XWRECKS 9307-50 ST. 469-8328  
YARBIRD SUITE 10203-86 AVE. 432-0478  
ZUCCHERO CAPPUCCINO BAR 8336-160 AVE. 472-7640



# 18-can packs of Kokanee.



EVERY MONDAY.  
MUNCH ON METAL MONDAYS NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE  
Every Monday.

## BLUES & ROOTS

MCQUAG BLUES ON WHYTE

POP & ROCK

LADYTRON STARLITE ROOM w/ Datarock.

## DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

DI ARROWCHASER BUDDY'S Every Tuesday.

DI HOT PHILLY RED STAR Experimental indie rock, hip hop, and electro. Every Tuesday.

COOL LATIN TUESDAYS FUNKY BUDDHA Dance Lessons. Every Tuesday.

## BLUES & ROOTS

MCQUAG BLUES ON WHYTE

## DJS/CLUB NIGHTS

BEATPARTY WEDNESDAYS STOLL'S Every

Wednesday.

DI HARLEY THE BANK Every

Wednesday.

GLITTER GULCH WEDNESDAYS

BLACK DOG w/ DJ Buster Friendly.

Every Wednesday.

GUEST DJ RED STAR Every

Wednesday.

NAS EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE

ROCK OUT WITH YER BOX OUT NEW

CITY Every Wednesday.

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## CONCERTS

EDMONTON BLUES SOCIETY MAY 12, 8 PM. QUEEN ALEX-ANDRA HALL. Recollection Blues Band and West of Winnipeg perform as part of a monthly jam and dance series. Tickets: \$5 at the door.

HEART OF THE CITY FUNDRAISER MAY 15, 9 PM. THE ARTERY. Silent auction and an evening of music with the Revlones and Martin Kerr. Tickets: \$15 at the door.

LE MYSTERES VOIX BULGARES MAY 22, 8 PM. MYER HOPKINZ THEATRE. Featuring the Grammy-winning Bulgarian group as they perform traditional songs. Tickets: \$37.50, \$29 student/senior at TM.

LILLIAN UPRIGHT'S BIRTHDAY CONCERT MAY 15, 7:30 PM. CONVOCATION HALL. Join in the celebration, as "Trio

con trio" with Lillian Upright, piano, Yoko Wong, violin, and Diana Nuttall, cello. Birthday cake for all. Admission is donation only. Info: 483-4888.

LIVE FROM THE MUSEUM: THE U-22 REVUE EVERY WED. UNTIL JUN 4. MUSEUM CAFE. ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12844-103 AVE. Featuring a mix of new artists, age 22 and under, and professionals conducting "Master Jam" sessions. Tickets: \$10 at the museum or EKUA studio.

MUSIC WEDNESDAYS AT NOON WED. 12:10-12:50 PM. MCDONALD UNITED CHURCH Free admission, bring a bag lunch. Tea and coffee available. Info: 468-4964.

ROBBINS LIGHTER CLASSICS MAY 15, 8 PM. WINDSEAR CENTRE. The ESO welcomes back pianist Sara Davis Buechner for a nostalgic evening of music. Tickets: \$28-65. Info: The Windsear.

SHEAN PIANO COMPETITION MAY 15 & 16, 9 AM. MULTART HALL, 10050 MACDONALD DR. Six pianists from across Canada take the stage as they compete for a \$5000 prize. Entire event is free to the public.

SHUBHENDRA RAO & SASKIA RAO DE HAAS MAY 17, 7:30 PM. ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12845-102 AVE. The duo perform on sitar and cello. Tickets: \$20, \$15 student/senior. Info: the door.

TAJ MAHAL AND THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA MAY 25, 8 PM. WINDSEAR CENTRE. Tickets: \$55. www.windsearcentre.com

THIRD ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY GALA MAY 10. POLISH HALL, 10690-104 ST. Dinner and performance by the Caribbean-influenced Trinex Steel Orchestra. Info: Danielle 231-3848.

## OPEN STAGE

### THURSDAY

180 DEGREES 9 pm. Hip hop open mic hosted by DJ Dirty Needz.

BACKDRAUGHT PUB 9 pm. Everyone welcome.

DUSTERS PUB 9 pm-1 am. Hosted by The Wantha Thomas Band.

EDDIE SHORTS 9 pm.

J.R. GRILL & BAR 9 pm-1 am. Hosted by The Shameless Plugs. All styles welcome. B.Y.O instrument, drums & PA provided.

NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR 8 pm. Bring your own instruments, poetry, etc.

NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY LEAGUE 7 pm. Jam hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Association. Info: Ray, 457-9417.

ZUCCHERO 7:30 pm.

### SATURDAY

BLUES ON WHYTE 4-8:30 pm. Afternoon jam.

THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE 7-10 pm. Music and poetry open mic.

COAST TO COAST 9 pm-2 am. w/ Troy P. Wright.

EXPRESSIONZ CAFE 1ST SAT EVERY MONTH 1-5 pm.

Hosted by Kathryn Stirling. Info: www.expressionzcafes.com.

MORANGO'S TEX CAFE 7-10 pm. Hosted by Tommy. Info: www.morangotexcafes.com.

THE NEW TAPHOUSE 3-7 pm. Molson open stage. Hosted by Cammen Cook.

STRATHEARN PUB 2ND SAT EVERY MONTH 5-9 pm. Hosted by The Royal Tease, followed by karaoke.

KWRECKS 7 pm.

and Rickey Sidecar.

THE TAPHOUSE 8:30 pm-1 am. Moosehead Jam, hosted by Mark Ammar, Dale Collins, and Noel Mackenzie.

### WEDNESDAY

CAFE BRITT 7-9 pm. Hosted by Paul LePage.

THE ROCK PUB Acoustic night.

EDDIE SHORTS Open jam, all gear provided.

HOOLIGANZ PUB 7:30 pm. Hosted by Rock 'n Roll Kenny.

LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE 8 pm. Hosted by Brian Gregg. Info: www.littleflower.ca, or 429-3624.

THE NEW TAPHOUSE 9 pm. Hosted by Danny Floyd.

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7:30 pm. Bluegrass jam hosted by Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society.

STEEPS TEA LOUNGE Acoustic open mic every Wed. Email Jesse at fljabert@gmail.com by Mondays to book a spot that week.

CLIFF'S PUB # PANTRY Sat & Sun w/ Krista, Liquid

## KARAOKE

B-STREET BAR Wed-Sun w/ Brad Scott.

BLIND PIG Wed & Fri w/ Shelley.

BUD'S LOUNGE Fri & Sat, 9 pm-1:30 am w/ Mr. Entertainment.

CHIMMY'S Thu, Fri, Sat, 9:30 pm-1:30 am w/ Jimmy.

CHRISTOPHER'S PUB Tue, 9 pm. w/ Sonia/Prosound.

CROWN & ANCHOR PUB Thu, 10:30 pm.

CLIFF'S PUB # PANTRY Sat & Sun w/ Krista, Liquid

Entertainment.

DOYLE'S PUB Fri, 10 pm-2 am w/ Cathy. Sat, 10 pm-2 am w/ Ewan.

THE DRUID Wed, 9 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment.

DUSTER'S PUB Sat.

D.W.'S PUB & GRILL Fri, 9-1 am. Hosted by Mr. Entertainment.

ECCO PUB Mon, 9 pm-1 am w/ Sonia/Prosound Productions.

ELEMENT LOUNGE Wed, 9 pm.

FORT GAMING LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR Fri, 9 pm-1 am w/ Angel How.

FOX PUB Tue, 9 pm.

FUNKY BUDDHA Sun, 9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment.

GAS PUMP Tue & Wed, 9 pm-1 am w/ Gord's Live Jukebox.

H2O SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE Tue, Thu, Sat & Sun.

HAWKEYES TOO Fri & Sat, 8 pm w/ Hot Karaoke Productions.

HILLTOP PUB Thu, 9:30 pm.

HOOLIGANZ PUB Thu & Fri w/ Krista, Liquid Entertainment.

INGLEWOOD PUB Thu 9:30-2 w/ Gordo. Fri & Sat w/ Jolly Greg Giant.

JUGS PUB Sat, 9 pm.

KEEP IT SIMPLE (KIS) CLUB Tue & Sun, 6-10 pm. Except 2nd Tue of the month.

KNIGHTS PUB SOUTH Fri & Sat, 10 pm-2 am Gord's Live Jukebox.

L.B.'S PUB Tue, 9:30 pm-1:30 am w/ The KaraokeNuts.

MONA LISA PUB Thu-Sat, 9:30 pm-2 am. Sat, w/ Cathy.

NIKITA'S Tue & Thu, 7 pm-midnight w/ Shelley.

ON THE ROCKS Mon, 9:30 pm. Drink the Bar Dry Karaoke w/ Scott Parsons. Mr. Entertainment.

OVERDRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB & GRILL Sat, 9 pm w/ Jennie Joy.

RAMADA SOUTH Thu, 8 pm Colin & Ed Music. Trivia, Sun, 8 pm-midnight w/ Colin & Ed. Almost Famous.

RATT Tues, 9 pm. Colin & Ed Music. Trivia. Wed, 8 pm w/ Colin. Almost Famous.

ROSARIO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL Daily, 9 pm.

ROSIE'S BAR & GRILL Thu-Sat, 9:30 pm-1:30 am.

ROUGE LOUNGE Mon, 8:30 pm. w/ Mike McDonald and Sherry-Lee Wisor.

SILVER MARTINI Every 2nd Sat, 9 pm-1 am w/ ProSound Productions.

TRANSIT HOTEL Thurs, 7:30-11:30 pm w/ ProSound Productions.

X-WRECKS LOUNGE Wed, 7:30-11:30 pm w/ Sonia/Prosound.

### SUNDAY

DUSTERS PUB Hosted by The Mary Thomas Band.

EDDIE SHORTS 9 pm. Hosted by Rob Taylor, instruments and gear provided.

HOOLIGANZ PUB Afternoon jam hosted by Rock 'n Roll Kenny.

HULBERT'S 7-10 pm. Hosted by Rhea March. Info: www.hulberts.ca.

NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL 3-6 pm. Hosted by Willie James & Crowdad.

O'BYRNE'S IRISH PUB 9 pm. Hosted by Joe Bird.

THE OVERDRIVE 1:30-5 pm. "Anything Goes" afternoon acoustic jam hosted by The Shufflehead.

TEDDY'S LOUNGE & EATERY 9:30 pm.

MONDAY

LB'S PUB 9 pm-12:30 am. Hosted by Shaved Posse: Xen, Fred, Gordie, and Matt.

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7 pm. Acoustic fiddle jam hosted by Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society. Info: Willy, 474-5270.

THE IVORY CLUB 8 pm. Hosted by Marty Vinko.

ROSE BOWL/ROUGE LOUNGE 9 pm-12 am. w/ Mike McDonald and Sherry-Lee Wisor.

TUESDAY

THE DRUID 9 pm. Hosted by Chris Wintner.

SIDELINERS PUB 8 pm. All Star Jam. Hosted by Alicia Tait

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“THE PRESIDENT MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONJURE LEGALLY DEFENSIBLE REASONS FOR **CRUSHING THE TESTICLES** OF A DETAINEE'S CHILD IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL SECURITY.

MOVIE REVIEW • OSCAR-WINNER • BY SCOTT LINGLEY | 827 words

## The Banality Of Torture

**TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE**  
EXPLAINS HOW TORTURE  
BECAME THE NEW CORNER-  
STONE OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE

Directed by Alex Gibney. May 16-22. Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel).

★★★★☆

December 2002 was a particularly unlucky time for a taxi driver from rural Afghanistan named Dilawar. The young cabbie was carrying a fare toward his hometown of Yakubi when he was stopped at a U.S. Army checkpoint and identified as a suspect in a rocket attack on the encampment earlier that day. He and his three passengers were arrested and transported to Bagram Airbase for interrogation by an American Army unit.

Five days later, Dilawar was dead. The other occupants of the cab got off relatively easy—they were deemed “high-value detainees” and “renditioned” to the U.S. army base in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba for another 15 months of interrogation, even though American forces eventually determined that the rocket attack of which they were accused was actually perpetrated by the same Afghani commander who turned them over to U.S. forces as suspects.

During his time at Bagram, Dilawar was subjected to “interrogation techniques” that included sleep deprivation, forced standing (he was suspended from the ceiling of his cell by his wrists), and repeated “non-lethal” blows to his legs administered by a rotating crew of beefy U.S. soldiers. An autopsy revealed that, had Dilawar survived the physical abuse that precipitated his death, it would have been necessary to amputate his legs. Shortly after his death, the com-

mander of intelligence operations received a new assignment: to oversee the interrogation of detainees at Abu Ghraib Prison in Baghdad... but not before she was decorated for valor in the service of her country.

So who was to blame for the torture and murder of this innocent man—one of tens of thousands of detainees who have been “processed” by U.S. and coalition forces in the prosecution of wars in Afghanistan and Iraq? Documentarian Alex Gibney (*Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room*) uses Dilawar's unfortunate story to explore how torture and mistreatment of detainees became the official policy of the American government in *Taxi to the Dark Side*, the winner of this year's Oscar for Best Documentary Feature and compulsory viewing for anyone unfamiliar with the term “banality of evil.”

The official explanation has always been that the atrocities of Abu Ghraib were the work of “a few bad apples” and that the United States “does not torture,” but *Taxi to the Dark Side* decodes the bureaucratic language, legalistic hair-splitting, and obfuscation that the White House used to not only steamroller the Geneva Conventions' definitions of acceptable treatment of prisoners of war, but to thoroughly cover their asses lest anyone ever try to prosecute the U.S. executive branch for war crimes. In a particularly chilling soundbite, for example, former Justice Department legal counsel John Yoo calmly explains how the president might be able to conjure legally defensible reasons for crushing the testicles of a detainee's child in the name of national security.

Though *Taxi to the Dark Side* is packed with disturbing imagery—some of which will be familiar to



Dark... And Dusty Too | American soldiers guard detainees during an Iraqi dust storm in *Taxi to the Dark Side*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

anyone who has followed the Abu Ghraib scandal in the media—and repugnant notions, Gibney's style is the very opposite of Michael Moore's first-person rabble-rousing or Morgan Spurlock's stunt documentarianism, approaches that must be very tempting to any nonfiction filmmaker, given their popularity with moviegoers.

Instead, Gibney coolly musters expert opinions, eyewitness testimony of U.S. soldiers involved in interrogating detainees, official documents, and the public pronouncements of the architects of American interrogation policy (Cheney, Rumsfeld, Gonzales, Yoo) to examine the rationalizations for the increasingly inhumane treatment of people who, at the time of their capture, haven't been proven guilty of anything. It may have been

the soldiers on the ground who were too vigorous in their application of interrogation techniques, but Gibney exposes how the tacit approval—indeed, the pressure—to extract information from “enemy combatants” by any means necessary came from the uppermost links in the chain of command. Naturally, only the soldiers were held culpable.

The gut-wrenching irony is that the intelligence derived from torture is often of little or no value because detainees will tell their interrogators whatever they want to hear to make the torture stop. When former Secretary of State Colin Powell told the UN General Assembly there was irrefutable proof Saddam Hussein was training al-Qaeda prior to 9/11, he was repeating an untruth blurted out by a detainee during waterboard-

ing, the controversial interrogation technique that simulates drowning. A few months later, that piece of “intelligence” was officially rescinded as having no basis in fact, even though various U.S. officials continued to utter it in public.

To be sure, Gibney's film is a very rough ride for the way it connects matters of policy to their horrific real-world impacts—policies that serve no purpose other than allowing politicians to look tough before a thoroughly terrified electorate. Even if time can somehow efface the cumulative blight of the Bush Jr. years, *Taxi to the Dark Side* will remain a haunting and profound warning against the dangers of answering evil with evil, couched though it may be in legalistic jargon and bland euphemism.

## DVD DICTATOR • THE MOVIES YOU MUST BUY THIS TUESDAY

RIDICULOUS!

### National Treasure: Book of Secrets

CAST | Nicolas Cage, Jon Voight, Helen Mirren, Ed Harris, Harvey Keitel

This slow week for DVD releases gives the Dictator the perfect chance to reveal a guilty secret; he actually kind of gets a kick out of the *National Treasure* movies. On the surface, they're fast-moving, cheerfully ridiculous adventures populated by a hilariously overqualified cast, but look deeper, past their goofy, ultra-patriotic surface, and their vision of American history as a story shaped by sinister secret societies make them one of the more subversive blockbuster franchises around.

DELIRIOUS!

### The Delirious Fictions of William Klein

DIRECTOR | William Klein

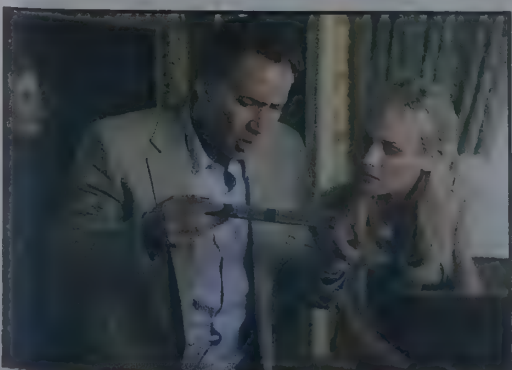
The Criterion Collection presents three films the American-born, Paris-based photographer made between 1966 and 1977: the fashion-world satire *Who Are You, Polly Magoo?* (starring Grayson Hall as a character based on *Vogue* editrix Diana Vreeland); the anti-imperialist superhero farce *Mr. Freedom* (featuring a cameo by Serge Gainsbourg); and *The Model Couple* (in which a middle-class couple is placed under 24-hour surveillance by the French government). Utterly daffy: think Godard crossed with Vadim.

INGLORIOUS!

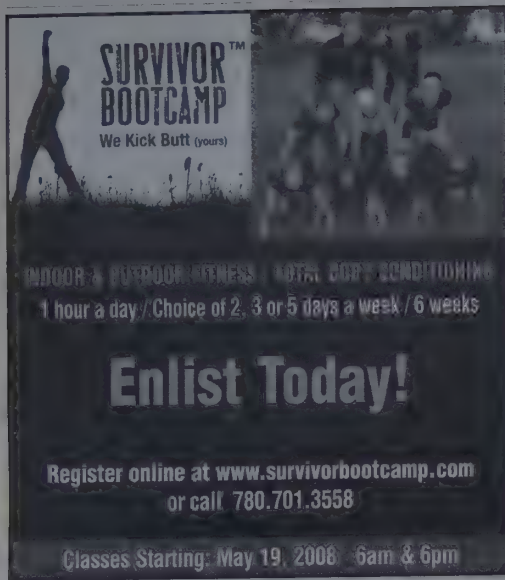
### Inglorious Bastards

CAST | Bo Svenson, Fred Williamson, Ian Bannen, Peter Hooten

Quentin Tarantino's next film is shrouded in secrecy: no one seems sure who's in it, what it's about, whether the reportedly 600-page script will result in one, two, or three feature-length films, or if the damn thing has even begun shooting. All anybody knows is that it's set during WWII and takes its (awesome) title from this 1977 Italian ripoff of *The Dirty Dozen* in which a group of American soldiers escape from custody on their way to military prison and wind up volunteering to help steal a V2 rocket from the Nazis. Those bastards!



This Looks Like A Job For Benjamin Franklin Gates! | Yes, that really is the name of Nicolas Cage's character in *National Treasure: Book of Secrets*. PHOTO SUPPLIED



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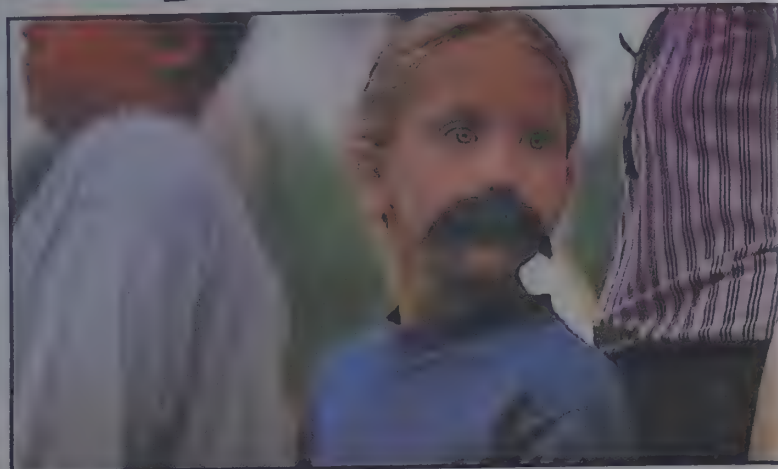
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STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 16

For Theatres and Showtimes:  
Check Local Listings or visit [disney.com/Narnia](http://disney.com/Narnia)

MOVIE REVIEW • DVD DISCOVERY • BY PAUL MATWYCHUK (107 words)

# A Hug For Handshake



Little Shaver | Katy Harwood sports the latest in little-girl facial hair as "Turkeylegs" in *The Guatemalan Handshake*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

**THE GUATEMALAN HANDSHAKE**  
IS THE YEAR'S BEST FILM—  
PROVIDED YOU CAN GET ON ITS  
STRANGE WAVELENGTH

THE GUATEMALAN HANDSHAKE

Directed by Todd Rohal. Starring Will Oldham, Katy Harwood, Ken Bynes. Now available on DVD through Benten Films ([www.bentenfilms.com](http://www.bentenfilms.com))

★★★★★

*The Guatemalan Handshake* is my favourite movie so far this year, and yet I'm kind of at a loss to explain why I liked it so much.

Maybe I can start by saying that it's a celebration of genuine American eccentricity. Writer/director Todd Rohal seems to know that true eccentricity doesn't just consist of a couple of cartoonish quirks; it's organic, inexplicable... and odd more often than it is funny.

*Guatemalan Handshake* resembles, say, *Napoleon Dynamite*, it's *Napoleon Dynamite* after it's filtered through the sensibility of *George Washington* and *All the Real Girls*, with maybe a pinch of *Gummo*. (And indeed, David Gordon Green is thanked in the credits and wrote an enthusiastic essay about the film for the DVD booklet.)

Shot for only \$70,000, the film is one of the most gorgeous-looking comedies I've ever seen, full of impeccable widescreen compositions and a palette of warm oranges, browns, and greens that Terrence Malick would flip over. (He'd also probably be flattered by the voiceover narration by top-billed little Katy Harwood as Turkeylegs, which recalls Linda Manz' narration from *Days of Heaven*.)

The action unfolds in a small

Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction sit on people's coffee tables, and where the best possible fairground prize is a giant fake mustache.

In one scene, elderly Ethel Firecracker reads her own obituary in the town newspaper, and shuffles off, bewildered but resigned, to attend her own memorial service. In another scene, Turkeylegs prepares herself a meal by standing a hollow chocolate Easter bunny in a bowl of half-melted ice cream, breaking it in half, filling it with chocolate milk, and methodically topping it all off with whipped cream and chocolate syrup. In another, a pair of Boy Scouts drive down the highway, uncaringly tossing dollar bills, one by one, out the window behind them. Hey, it's one way to pass the time.

Movies like *The Guatemalan*

*THE GUATEMALAN HANDSHAKE TAKES PLACE IN A PLACE WHERE PHONE BOOTHS STILL EXIST, WHERE OLD (CURRENT?) ISSUES OF ANALOG SIT ON PEOPLE'S COFFEE TABLES, AND WHERE THE BEST POSSIBLE FAIRGROUND PRIZE IS A GIANT FAKE MUSTACHE.*

True American eccentrics are people like Mr. Turnupseed, a stern old guy who keeps a stash of fireworks secretly in his backyard shed, the combination to the lock hidden in the sunshade of his vintage electric car, and a photo of himself. Willie Mays, and the world's largest piece of bubblegum mounted on a piece of wood and hung on the wall of the TV room. It's people like Stool, a social misfit who takes his shirt off whenever he gets excited and blithely keeps on drinking milkshakes even though he's lactose intolerant. And it's people like Turkeylegs, a 10-year-old part-time mechanic who conducts her own investigation when her 40-year-old best friend vanishes and no one else bothers to go looking for him.

Those character descriptions may sound silly and mannered, but if *The*

town in Pennsylvania that's like a Brigadoon of '70s detritus: the cordless phone doesn't seem to have penetrated here yet; wood paneling has not yet gone out of style; men wear sideburns, large-collared dress shirts, and polyester shorts without irony, and everyone's idea of a good time is going to the fair and taking in a demolition derby.

But the '70s fashions aren't punchlines, the way they are in Will Ferrell comedies; rather, they're used nostalgically, even poignantly, to evoke an age when wood was more common than chrome, when people were more comfortable with their own homegrown tackiness, when kids could spend the night chasing fireflies through a wheatfield without anybody worrying. It's a place where phone booths still exist, where old (current?) issues of *Analog* and *The*

*Handshake* seem like small miracles, made with whatever materials and locations happened to be at hand, starring people on the street and in the schools, with no marketing plan, no interest in attracting Hollywood distribution, no goal of becoming "this year's *Juno*"—a real-life version of the "neighbourhood filmmaking" celebrated within *Be Kind Rewind*, but made with a genuine artist's eye and not a couple of amateurs with an old camcorder.

That's the second time I've used "genuine" to describe this movie, but I can't think of a better word to replace it. It's genuinely funny, genuinely touching, genuinely original, and at more than a few times, genuinely perplexing. And I'm genuinely grateful to the people at Benten Films for making this gem available on DVD.

MOVIE REVIEW • BUGFUCK CRAZY! • BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 660 words

# Those Obscure Insects Of Desire



**Spanish Fly Necessary** | Isabella Rossellini indulges in a little X-rated entomology in *Green Porno*. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SUNDANCE CHANNEL

**ISABELLA ROSSELLINI MAKES DRAGONFLIES, SNAILS, AND SPIDERS INTO SEX OBJECTS IN *GREEN PORNO***

**GREEN PORNO**

Directed by Isabella Rossellini. Starring Isabella Rossellini.

Now playing online.

★★★★☆

Last year, The Sundance Channel in the States decided to start developing projects for computers, iPods, and cellphones—the so-called “third screen.” (Movie theatres are the first

insects, and... er... whatever snails and earthworms are. Their visual style recalls an elementary school pageant or a children's pop-up book come to life: bright, primary colours, with sets and costumes largely made of construction paper and cardboard.

Everything looks deliberately artificial: the sky is obviously a bedsheet with fluffy white “clouds” stapled onto it. Rossellini’s “compound eyes” are obviously goggles covered with eye-shaped cardboard cutouts, and when Rossellini, playing a housefly,

old clothes and antique gadgets up in the attic. It's as if one of those nutty women who love dressing up their cats in homemade costumes had a side career as a top fashion model and knew a lot of New York gallery owners and theatre designers.

Rossellini brings a childlike sense of make-believe to these shorts that's absolutely perfect for the material. She's completely unembarrassed to dress up in ridiculous spandex costumes or deliver the strangest information straight into the camera. “If I were an earthworm, I would-pee from each of my segments,” “If I were a dragonfly, I would find a female, grab her body, and clean her vagina to make sure she only had my babies,” “If I were a snail, I would twist my body to fit inside my shell, my anus would end up on top of my head... unfortunately.”

She's particularly funny in the “housefly” segment, yawning with mock alarm when someone tries to swat her with a newspaper, snacking on a giant plate of spaghetti, and then enthusiastically humping a giant female fly from the rear. “I have sex several times a day!” she boasts. “Any opportunity! Any female!”

The more alien the creature she's impersonating, the sexier Rossellini gets. In the “earthworm” segment, she's deliciously serene as she describes the joys of hermaphroditic sex, and when she successfully passes her fertilized clitellum over her head, allowing a new litter of babies to hatch, she looks like the most radiant woman on earth.

And words cannot describe the X-rated climax of the “snail” segment, in which Rossellini is both penetrator and penetratee, sadist and masochist, top and bottom, man and woman. “Sadomasochism excites me,” she coos—Dorothy Vallens and

**ROSSSELLINI IS PARTICULARLY FUNNY IN THE “HOUSEFLY” SEGMENT, ENTHUSIASTICALLY HUMMING A GIANT FEMALE FLY FROM THE REAR. “I HAVE SEX SEVERAL TIMES A DAY!” SHE BOASTS. “ANY OPPORTUNITY! ANY FEMALE!”**

screen and TV sets are the second screen of the 21st-century media landscape.) The content would need to be short, colourful, and high-impact. It's a simple mandate, and yet somehow it led to Isabella Rossellini in a bee costume hopping around a soundstage shouting, “My penis has broken off!”

That scene is one of the highlights of *Green Porno*, a delightfully odd series of eight short films (very short—they range from 90 seconds to just under three minutes) in which Rossellini describes the peculiar sexual habits of various common bugs,

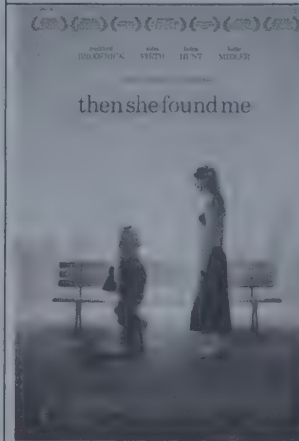
shows herself crawling on the ceiling, she's obviously just crawling on the floor with the camera turned upside down.

It always used to seem strange that Rossellini, an internationally renowned beauty and the daughter of Hollywood royalty, was so willing to put herself at the disposal of oddball directors like David Lynch and Guy Maddin. But *Green Porno* makes the explanation obvious: she's every bit as crazy as they are! But it's a lovable, homespun sort of craziness—the craziness of that dotty spinster aunt we all have, the one with all those weird

Frank Booth from *Blue Velvet* both subsumed into one small, slimy, ecstatic organism.

Besides being hilarious, *Green Porno* makes the world seem just a little more wondrous—who knew such perversities were taking place right under our noses? I don't think I'd want to trade places with any of these insects, though. Well, all right, maybe I'd be willing to be a firefly, but only if I could be guaranteed that the female flashing back at me would turn out to be as cute as Isabella Rossellini. And that she wouldn't eat me.

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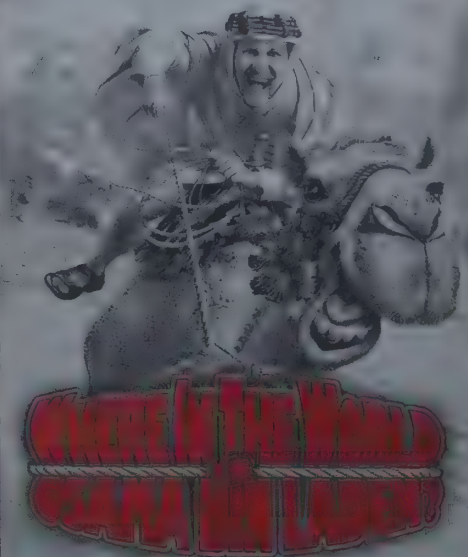
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 Academy Award Winner  
 Nightly @ 9:00 pm  
 Sat, Sun & Mon @ 3:00 pm  
 Rated 14A violence, disturbing content



**Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden**  
 Nightly @ 7:00 & 9:10 pm  
 Sat, Sun & Mon  
 Matinees @ 2:00 pm  
 Rated PG coarse language

**summer guide**



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MOVIE REVIEW • STUNT DOC • BY MATT HUBERT | 615 words

# Osama Told Me Not To Come

**MORGAN SPURLOCK'S LAITS-OVER-FACTS APPROACH FAILS HIM IN WHERE IN THE WORLD IS OSAMA BIN LADEN?**

**WHERE IN THE WORLD IS OSAMA BIN LADEN?**

Directed by Morgan Spurlock. Opens Fri. May 16.

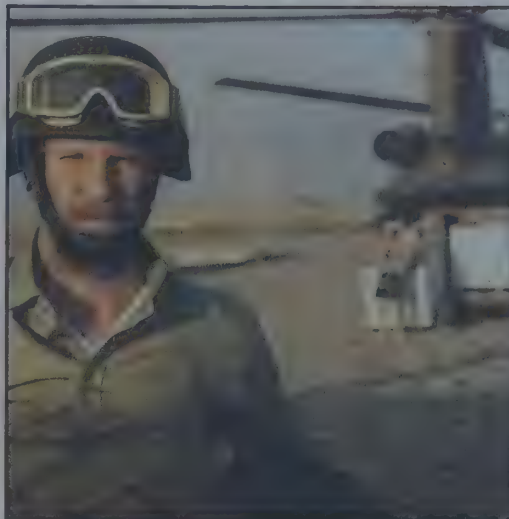
★★★☆☆

He's not a comedian, but it's safe to say that Morgan Spurlock's edifying journeys are a little more entertaining than enlightening. Audiences didn't flock to *Super Size Me* hoping to learn something about the fast-food industry; they were lured in by his Jackass-style stunt of subsisting for a month on an all-McDonalds diet. Plenty of documentary filmmakers "go the distance," so to speak, but Spurlock's idea of going the distance—whether it be eating Big Macs until your liver and libido both fail you, or going to jail for a month (like he did on an episode of his TV series *30 Days*)—is a beast of an entirely different brood.

Spurlock's approach is relentless, funny, and all too easy to get swept up in. It's hard not to root for this regular guy with his soup-strainer grin... and it's even harder to watch him fall so hopelessly flat in *Where in the World Is Osama bin Laden?*

The film doesn't depart from Spurlock's proven formula of begging a pervasive question and then enacting some daring experiment to arrive at an answer we already saw coming. Take *Super Size Me*: we know full well that our sedentary lifestyle choices do far more to amp up our cholesterol and kill us than the fast-food giants—but we reveled in the month Spurlock spent eating himself halfway to death in order to drive his point home.

With *WITWIOBL*, it's more of the same: we know full well that the people of the Middle East have been vilified and demonized by North American media and pop culture, and we know ignorance and intolerance are the language of our age—but what to do? That question, says Spurlock, has eluded governments, leaders, and communities the world over since 9/11. But now, with a baby on the way, Spurlock feels mounting anxiety about bringing a child into a world of turbulence and violence, and decides to make a difference. "If watching Hollywood movies has taught me anything," he says, "it's that if the world needs saving, it's best done by one lone white male willing to face danger head on, action hero-



Today, McDonald's... Tomorrow, al-Qaeda! | Morgan Spurlock attempts to wipe out Islamist terrorism in *Where in the World Is Osama bin Laden?* PHOTO SUPPLIED

style."

And so, Spurlock decides to fly off to the Middle East and hunt down the archvillain himself, Osama bin Laden. He prepares for his trek with some hilarious over-the-top survival training (lots of grenade-dodging and

fake hostage scenarios), and countless immunizations, not to mention the disapproving looks of his pregnant girlfriend Alex (his granola galpal of *Super Size Me* fame).

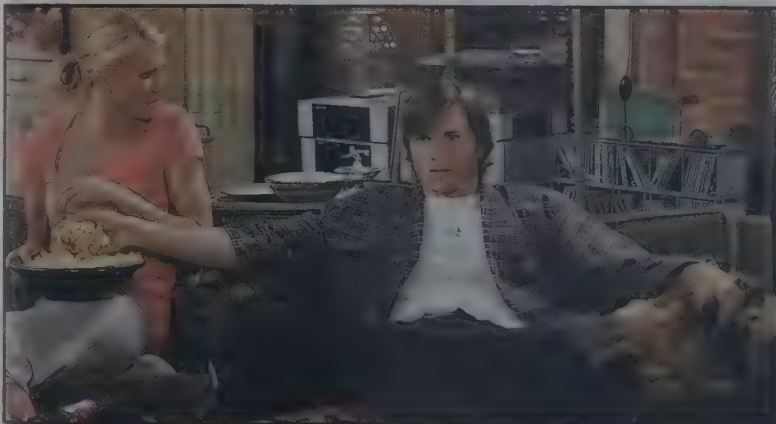
So far, so good. But Spurlock's eventual trip is painfully anti-

climatic: he moves at a grueling pace across Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Jordan, Egypt, and Israel, talking to government officials, religious leaders, and (most importantly) everyday people about their perception of the U.S. war on terror and the whereabouts of the world's most wanted man. All he manages to conjure up are the same split opinions and uncertain stances that make up the Middle East's interpretation of the West: some loathe bin Laden's fundamentalist perversion of Islam, while others laud his holy war — admirable; some hate the American people, but most hate the government; the media manipulates either side of the struggle; Bush — an asshole.

It's barely enough insight for one hour of *Anderson Cooper 360*, let alone a feature film—and Spurlock looks noticeably exhausted throughout. *Where in the World Is Osama bin Laden?* also has the misfortune of arriving in Edmonton the same week as a much more insightful, rigorous, and thoughtful war-on-terror documentary, Alex Gibney's *Taxi to the Dark Side*. Spurlock does his best to make us think a little and laugh a lot, but some things just aren't funny anymore.

MOVIE REVIEW • ROMANTIC COMEDY • BY SCOTT LINGLEY | 161 words

# What's Hapless In Vegas



First Comes Liquor, Then Comes Marriage... | Cameron Diaz and Ashton Kutcher marry in haste and repent at leisure in *What Happens in Vegas...* PHOTO SUPPLIED

**DO YOU REALLY NEED A REVIEW TO TELL YOU THAT THIS THING IS A FORMULAIC, SOULLESS WASTE OF TIME?**

**WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS...**

Directed by Tom Vaughan. Starring Cameron Diaz, Ashton Kutcher, Rob Corddry, Lake Bell. Now playing.

★★★☆☆

If, as in Voltaire's formulation, the perfect is indeed the enemy of the good, an equally forceful argument could be made that the genuinely aw-

ful is the enemy of the merely bad.

Take, for example, the new Cameron Diaz/Ashton Kutcher romantic comedy *What Happens in Vegas...* Had it been a truly execrable experience, I could easily have trotted out 500 words denouncing it and we could have all had a good laugh at its expense. Instead, it's predictably lifeless and laughless, little more than an excuse for a couple of pretty faces to coast through 90 minutes of PG-13 potty jokes, hackneyed men-against-women observational

humour, and plot contrivances that would make the most credulous TV sitcom aficionado balk.

There's not much to say about *What Happens in Vegas...* that isn't abundantly clear from looking at the poster. The way those airbrushed, perfect-teeth megastars beam out at you pretty much spells out "generic empty-headed horse-shit." But in case you haven't seen the commercials, here's the gist: a computer error throws Joy (Diaz), a tight-assed commodities broker, and

Jack (Kutcher), a shiftless, slutty manchild into the same Vegas hotel room. She's come to Sin City to save her jilted heart, he to blow off steam after being fired from his woodworking job by his own father.

Their inhibitions loosened by copious liquor, the unlikely pair hook up and paint the town red. The harsh light of day shows they can't stand each other, but it's too late—they've gone and gotten themselves hitched. And just as they're working out the terms of their annulment, Jack drops one of Joy's quarters into a slot machine and pulls down a \$3 million jackpot. Rather than let them end their marriage and split the loot, a cranky judge (Dennis Miller) sentences the couple to remain married for six months, even forcing them to see a marriage counselor (Queen Latifah). With the help of their respective best friends (Lake Bell and Rob Corddry), Joy and Jack connive to make each other violate the marriage contract and provide genuine grounds for divorce. Guess what happens.

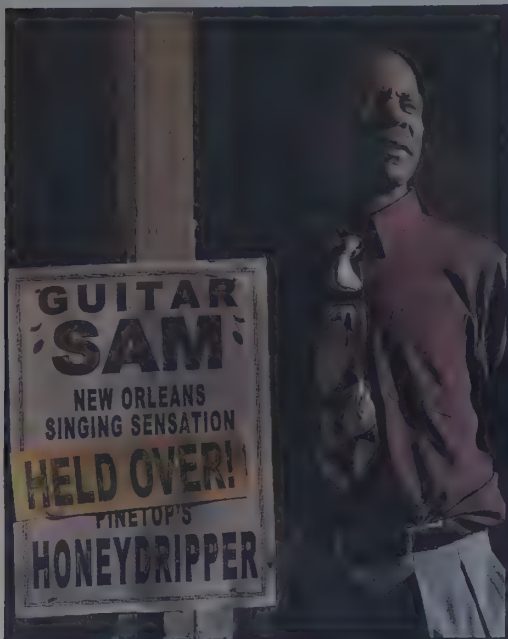
All the ingredients of the typical Hollywood rom-com are present, from the faintly obnoxious tone that all too readily gives way to cloying sentimentality, to the wall-to-wall soundtrack tacked on to add another

revenue stream to what is obviously nothing more than a factory-assembled, focus-group tested commercial product. Bit parts by familiar faces (Dennis Farina, Treat Williams, a handful of television comedians) proliferate like tame toilet gags, while the marquee players rely on twinkling eyes, dimples, and smirks to translate the aggregation of personality flaws provided by screenwriter Dana Fox into two-dimensional characters.

Dennis Miller, who directly channels his wearisome contrarian persona into the role of the grumpy judge who sets all this jocular irrelevance in motion, does deserve special note. Miller's transformation in recent years from sharp-tongued comedian to gormless right-wing apologist constitutes a compelling argument for his mounting irrelevance, but his so-called performance in this pointless twaddle intimates that the horse done left the barn.

So there you have it: *What Happens in Vegas...* is not a gruesome cinematic abortion, but a workmanlike time-waster that's stupid in precisely all the ways you've come to expect. So thanks for making it the third highest-grossing film in North America last weekend. Be sure to tell all your friends that it's not that bad.

# I've Got The John Sayles Blues



Strummer Of Sam | Danny Glover is counting on a concert by a legendary guitarist to solve his money woes in *Honeydripper*.

**GOD KNOWS HE'S AN INDIE-FILM LEGEND, BUT HONEYDRIPPER SHOWS SAYLES AT HIS MOST INERT**

## HONEYDRIPPER

Directed by John Sayles. Starring Danny Glover, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Charles Dutton, Vondie Curtis-Hall. May 16-22. Metro Cinema (Zedler Hall, The Citadel).

★★★☆☆

You don't need to do much more than scan John Sayles' Wikipedia entry to admire him as a pioneer of the modern American independent

film movement. Like Martin Scorsese and James Cameron, Sayles got his break working with exploitation-movie kingpin Roger Corman, but while he's made a lot of money over the years as a blockbuster script doctor, he never went completely Hollywood, and continued instead to resolutely churn out one left-leaning ensemble piece after another.

I have to admit. I was tempted to begin this review by making fun of the strangely manicured eyebrows he wears in his Wikipedia mug shot, but after watching a few online in-

terviews with the self-proclaimed "Catholic atheist," whose parents were both of half-Irish descent, I started to feel a sense of camaraderie with the odd-looking chap. And to be fair, his eyebrows look a lot more natural in the other pictures.

And yet, for all that, something about Sayles' new film *Honeydripper* filled me with trepidation. Maybe that was unfair. After all, I haven't seen his last few films, *Sunshine State*, *Silver City*, and *Casa de los Babys*. But I couldn't help but recall a damning comment a friend of mine recently made about him: "People are... kind of... tired of John Sayles."

*Honeydripper* takes place in Alabama in 1950, where proud but broke Pine Top Purvis (Danny Glover) operates a roadhouse called The Honeydripper—meanwhile, the juke joint down the road is rapidly driving him out of business. Faced not just with financial ruin, but the prospect of losing the business around which he's built his entire persona, he thinks he's found a surefire solution to bail him out of his money troubles: a blockbuster one-night-only concert by the legendary New Orleans musician Guitar Sam.

But when Sam fails to arrive on the appointed night, Pine Top is forced to gamble his future on a young drifter named Sonny (Gary Clark Jr.), who's arrived in town with a curious object in tow: a homemade electric guitar.

The film's backdrop—that pivotal moment in musical history where the blues was just about to transform into rock 'n' roll—is indescribably rich with dramatic possibilities, but Sayles' characters are disappointingly flat, trapped in a creaky, old-fashioned script whose language possesses little of the idiomatic flavour of the American south. The dead air that separates each line of dialogue weighs only a little less than the slang that tumbles like bricks from their tongues.

And while the premise suggests *Big Night* as rewritten by August Wilson, it's weighed down by the contrived plot device of having Sonny impersonate Guitar Sam—during the (uninspired) big concert scene, it turns out (unconvincingly) that Sonny can wail so hard on his guitar that nobody cares when it turns out he's not who he says he is. The acclaimed blues guitarist and first-time actor Keb' Mo' fares much better in his scenes as Possum, a blind seer who shreds nice little Robert Johnson-esque ditties on his old guitar.

There's a certain amount of music in the lazy exchanges between Glover and Charles Dutton, who plays Pine Top's friend and confidant Maceo, but fans of the Delta blues may be better off seeking out *Honeydripper*'s solid soundtrack album instead.

# Upfront And Personal



**TELEPROMPTER NICOLA SIMPSON KHULLAR THE NEWS FROM THE NETWORKS INCLUDES GOOD NEWS FOR '70S RETREADS AND JIMMY FALLON, BAD NEWS FOR KELSEY GRAMMER**

This week the networks have been making lots of announcements. Some big, some little. But as the season limps to an end, The Powers That Be are trying hard to keep their offerings at the front of our minds over the summer hiatus.

A few things to look forward to next season:

- *Reaper* gets another harvest. The quirky Vancouver-shot CW drama has been reupped for at least 13 episodes.

- That groovy afterschool staple of the 1970s (yes, I watched it), *The Electric Company*, is coming back to PBS. Despite its relatively short run from 1971-1977, it survived in reruns until 1985, and originally starred

ginal home). No word yet on which of her myriad of demons will follow her.

- ABC will be the home of the American remake of the Brit hit *Life on Mars*. The pilot was written by David E. Kelley (*Boston Legal*), who also owns the remake rights, but there's no word on if he'll actually helm the series. Starring Irish actor Jason O'Mara, *Life on Mars* is about a cop who time-travels back to the 1970s. Hmmm. Crossover with *The Electric Company* in the works?

- There are a few new promising animated sitcoms in the works, notably *The Goode Family* (premiering on ABC in January 2009). From Mike Judge (*King of the Hill*), the show revolves around a not-so good family. Shocker. Also on ABC, *Class Dismissed*.

- The Show I Really, Really Want To Like #1: Joss Whedon's *Dollhouse*, starring Eliza Dushku as a memory-wiped secret agent-type person. The details are as fuzzy as the premise.

- The Show I Really, Really Want To Like #2: Jerry Bruckheimer's *Eleventh Hour*, another Brit TV adaptation, a weird kind of X-Files thing starring Rufus Sewell.

- The Show I Really, Really Want To Like #3: J.J. Abrams's *Fringe*.

**GET READY FOR THE FIRST FAMILY GUY SPINOFF, THE CLEVELAND SHOW. HONESTLY, THIS SOUNDS LIKE ONE OF THE SHOW'S OWN JOKES. WHY NOT JUST MAKE A SPINOFF OF WACKY WAVING INFLATABLE ARM FLAILING TUBE MAN?**

Rita Moreno and Morgan Freeman (as the cooler-than-cool bookworm/pimp "Easy Reader").

- Fox thankfully axed the Kelsey Grammer/Patti Heaton "comedy" *Back to You, Man*, I called that one correctly. Never fear: there will be plenty of lame-sounding sitcoms to replace it. First up, *Project Gary* (CBS), starring Jay Mohr as a divorced dad. Sheesh, where's a McDonald's tie-in when you need one?

- *Boston Legal* will be back. I hear it's good, but honestly I've never watched it.

- Tyra Banks and Ken Mok, producers of *America's Next Top Model*, have the greenlight to bring *Stylista* to the CW next season. The competition reality show will follow 11 fashionista wannabes as they try to land a job at *Elle* magazine. They're calling this "The Devil Wears Prada for reality TV."

- Kelly Taylor is returning to her old ZIP code. Jennie Garth has indeed signed up for the remake of *Beverly Hills 90210*, which will strangely be on CW, not Fox (its ori-

"which follows the exploits of a young female FBI agent who tackles unexplained medical and scientific phenomena" (i.e., another weird kind of X-Files thing).

- *Ugly Betty* is moving production to New York. Makes sense.

- ABC is also dumping *Men in Trees*, *New Amsterdam*, and *Canterbury's Law*, because no one has ever watched them, including the network president.

- Get ready for the first *Family Guy* spinoff, *The Cleveland Show*. Honestly, this sounds like one of the show's own jokes. Why not just make a spinoff of Wacky Waving Inflatable Arm Flailing Tube Man?

- Maybe not next season, but eventually: Jimmy Fallon has officially been tapped to replace Conan O'Brien on *Late Night* when he bows out (no date set). Fallon is prescient, apparently. In his kindergarten yearbook, he was voted "Most Likely to Replace David Letterman." Well, technically Conan replaced Dave when moved to CBS, so there you go.

- Another season of useless lists from Teleprompter.

**FREE STUFF**

Come to Second Cup on Jasper Ave (10309 Jasper Ave) between 2 and 2:15 pm on Friday. Find the SEE Magazine rep and give them the answer or appropriate response to the question or task below. You may not win if you have won a prize from SEE Magazine in the last 30 days. SEE Magazine reserves the right to restrict prizes. Prizes must be claimed in person by the contest entrant. Photo ID may be required.

**Prize:** A double-guest pass to see *Then She Found Me* at the Garneau Theatre.

**Skill-testing Question:** Who bought the U.S. and Canadian rights for the film at the 2007 Toronto International film festival?

**Prize:** A double-guest pass to see *Where In The World Is Osama Bin Laden?* at the Princess Theatre.

**Skill-testing Question:** What popular Internet web cast did Morgan Spurlock create for MTV?

# BEYOND THE BLURBS -ONLINE CRITICS HAVE THEIR SAY



**Morgan Failure** | *Where in the World Is Osama bin Laden?* fails to find a receptive audience. PHOTO SUPPLIED

## THIS WEEK: CRITICS LOSE PATIENCE WITH MORGAN SPURLOCK

Ed Gonzalez, *Slant* | "In *Where in the World Is Osama bin Laden?*, Morgan Spurlock presents himself as a character in a wide-ogame and every pit stop on his trip, one increasingly precarious stage closer toward a presumable boss fight with Bin Laden.... Foregrounding his pop-cultural fixations, thus suffocating the flashes of insight he gives us into the lives of Middle Eastern people, Spurlock gives currency to

the stereotype of the self-absorbed, globe-trotting Ugly American."

Tasha Robinson, *The Onion AV Club* | "The affirming message gives *Where in the World?* a warm, fuzzy, pleasantly inclusive center. But that center is heavily coated with a numbing barrage of Michael Moore stunt journalism, dumbed-down history lectures, and a bright candy shell of animation and self-satisfied jokes. [The film] is a conversation-starter for ADD-stricken adolescents who can't bear to think about one thing for too long, or too deeply."

Annie Wagner, *The Stranger* | "Spurlock's film consistently condescends to the non-Americans it portrays while pandering to its American audience. He conducts short interviews in English, being careful to keep his interpreters off-camera and mic, whether his subjects respond in French or Urdu, he nods dumbly, feigning sympathy even when they say outrageous things. The film conveys a bare minimum of historical or sociological information, content to assert that U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East has been erratic and that poverty and joblessness feed terror-

ism. Meanwhile, the hedgepodge of animation more than once approaches racist caricature. Spurlock should really stick to hamburgers."

Dana Stevens, *Slate* | "I wish this airheaded, if genial, road movie had been double-billed with a companion piece, *Where in the World Is My Goddamn Husband?*, in which we'd watch Spurlock's wife, Alexandra Jamieson, clomp through her second and third trimesters alone in Brooklyn while her partner checked merrily in from the caves of Tora Bora."

## Scotiabank Theatre

## Scotiabank Theatre Edmonton with IMAX®

# SHOWTIMES MAY 16-22, 2008

### GARNEAU

8712 - 101 STREET • 433-0278

**WHEN SHE FOUND ME** 14A  
Nightly 7:00, 9:30. Sat & Sun matinees 2:00. Rocky Horror Play 17th  
Multiple Tax on Sale Now

### PRINCESS

10337 - 82 AVENUE • 433-0278

**YOUNG OF HEART** PG  
Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. No 7 p.m. Show Wed., May 21

**THE COUNTERFEITERS** 14A  
Nightly 9:00. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 3:00. Violence, disturbing content

**WHERE IN THE WORLD IS OSAMA BIN LADEN** PG  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 2:00. Coarse language

### PARKLAND

205 Main Street, Space Grove • 962-2332

**CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN** PG  
Nightly 6:45, 9:30, 9:50. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00. Violence, disturbing content

**WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS** PG  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 2:00. Coarse language

**NIM'S ISLAND** G  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:40

**MADE OF HONOR** PG  
Nightly 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Coarse language, sexual content

**IRON MAN** PG  
Nightly 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence, not recommended for young children

**SPEED RACER** PG  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence, not recommended for young children

**INDIANA JONES & THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL** PG  
Thurs 5:00, 7:00, 9:30, 4:00. Starts Thurs May 22, 2008. Violence, frightening scenes

**METRO**

9820-101A AVENUE (OLDHAM BLVD.) CINEMA THEATRE • 475-9212

**TAXI TO THE DARKSIDE** STC  
Fri 7:00, Sat 9:15, Sun 9:00, Mon 9:15, Tues 7:00, Wed 9:15

**ROCKY HORROR** STC  
Fri 7:00, Sat 9:00, Sun 9:00, Mon 7:00, Tues 9:00, Wed 7:00

**EDMONTON TONIGHT** STC  
Fri 11:30

**ROUND** STC  
Sun 7:00

**THE MATRIX** STC  
Sun 4:00

### GRANDIN THEATRE

GRANDIN MALL, SIX WILSON CIRCLE, ALBERTA • 458-9822

**WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS** PG  
Fri 7:15, 9:15, 9:30, 9:50. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Coarse language, not recommended for children

**SPEED RACER** PG  
Daily 10:00, 3:45, 6:25, 8:55

**MADE OF HONOR** PG  
Daily 12:00, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25, 9:30. Coarse language, sexual content

**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN** PG  
Daily 12:55, 3:35, 6:30, 9:10. IMAX passes.

**IRON MAN** PG  
Daily 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30. Violence, not recommended for young children

### LEDUC CINEMAS

4702 50th Street • 955-2728

**WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS** PG  
Nightly 7:15, 9:15, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Coarse language, not recommended for children

**IRON MAN** PG  
Nightly 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 3:35. Violence, not recommended for children

**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN** PG  
Nightly 6:50, 9:40. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence

**SPEED RACER** PG  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence

**INDIANA JONES & THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL** PG  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence

### WETASKIWIN CINEMA 4 PLEX

3840-54 Wetaskiwin • 252-3722

**WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS** PG  
Nightly 7:15, 9:15. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:10, 3:25. Coarse language, not recommended for children

**IRON MAN** PG  
Nightly 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 3:35. Violence, not recommended for children

**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN** PG  
Nightly 6:50, 9:40. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence

**SPEED RACER** PG  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence

**INDIANA JONES & THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL** PG  
Nightly 6:55, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 12:00, 2:45. Violence

### NEW WEST MALL 8

WEST EDMONTON MALL, PLACE IN COUNTRY • 444-1879

BOX OFFICE NIGHTLY 6:15 • OPEN RAISES SAT/SUN 1:30

**BHOOTHATH (HINDI W.E.S.T.)** STC  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 3:35. Violence, not recommended for children

**NIM'S ISLAND** G  
Fri 4:40, 7:15, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 2:00, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 2:00. Coarse language

**21** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:15, 4:15, 6:50, 9:40. Violence, mature themes

**DRILLBIT TALK** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00. Violence, coarse language

**DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHOLE** G  
Fri 4:00, 6:45, 8:50. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 6:45, 8:50. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Coarse language, mature themes

**10,000 B.C.** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence

**THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL** 14A  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, mature themes

**JUMPER** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, coarse language

**THE SPIDERWICH CHRONICLES** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, coarse language

**NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, coarse language

### SOUTH EDMONTON

1525 99 Street • 435-9555

**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, coarse language

**IRON MAN** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, coarse language

**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN** PG  
Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, coarse language

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Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00. Violence, coarse language

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### INDIANA JONES & THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL

Thurs 12:00, 2:45, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30. Sat Sun & Mon matinees 1:00, 3:35. Violence, not recommended for children

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He's Got An Even More Majestic Mane Than Aslan! | Pretty pretty Ben Barnes plays the well-coiffed title role in *The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

## MOVIES • OPENING THIS WEEK

### BOUND

Jennifer Tilly, Gina Gershon, and Joe Pantoliano star in *The Matrix* directors Larry and Andy Wachowski's 1996 noir about a gangster's moll who conspires with her lesbian lover to steal a million dollars from the Chicago mob. *Metro Cinema: Sun, May 18 (2pm)*

### THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN

Ben Barnes, Tilda Swinton, William Moseley,

Anna Popplewell, and Georgie Henley star in *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* director Andrew Adamson's latest installment in the fantasy series, in which the Pevensie siblings return to Narnia to help an exiled prince overthrow the villain who has usurped the throne. Based on the book by C.S. Lewis.

### HONEYDRIPPER

Danny Glover, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Charles Dutton, and Vondie Curtis-Hall star in Lone Star writer/director John Sayles' ensemble drama, set in Alabama in 1950, about a

debt-ridden musician who is counting on an appearance by a legendary electric guitarist to save his failing juke joint. *Metro Cinema: Fri-Thu, May 16-22 (Sat, Mon, Wed 7pm; Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu @ 9pm)*

### THE MATRIX

Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne, Carrie-Anne Moss, and Joe Pantoliano star in *Speed Racer* directors Larry and Andy Wachowski's landmark 1999 sci-fi action movie about a computer programmer who learns that his entire existence is a virtual-reality illusion,

and that he is fated to defeat the evil machines that have enslaved the human race. *Metro Cinema: Sun, May 18 (4pm)*

### TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE

*Error: The Smartest Guys in the Room* director Alex Gibney's Oscar-winning documentary, which uses the story of an innocent Afghani taxi driver who was arrested by American troops, then tortured and killed, to examine human rights abuses in Abu Ghraib and Guantánamo Bay. *Metro Cinema: Fri-Thu, May 16-22 (Fri, Sun, Tue, Thu @ 7pm; Sat, Mon, Wed @ 9pm)*

### WHERE IN THE WORLD IS OSAMA BIN LADEN?

*Super Size Me* director Morgan Spurlock's tongue-in-cheek documentary, in which he travels to Egypt, Afghanistan, Israel, and Saudi Arabia on a mission to track down the terrorist leader, and come to a better understanding of the Middle East and its people along the way.

## MOVIES • ALSO PLAYING

### BABY MANA

Tina Fey and Amy Poehler are two of the smartest, most inventive comedians around, but this offspring, sadly, looks nothing like its parents: it's predictable, unadventurous, and only intermittently funny. ★★☆☆☆

### THE COUNTERFEITERS

Even if you didn't know this true-life Holocaust drama won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, you'd probably guess it at least got a nomination. The filmmaking may be stolid and unadventurous, but the story is fascinating and Karl Markovics' central performance is subtle and deeply compelling. ★★☆☆☆

### THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

Jackie Chan and Jet Li team up for the very first time. The results are more watered-down, Westernized, and kiddie-friendly than hardcore kung fu fans would probably wish, but the fight scenes are a blast. ★★☆☆☆

### FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL

This latest romantic comedy from those overworked gagsters in the Judd Apatow factory is as full of laughs and male full frontal nudity as its predecessors. Worth the price of admission solely for Jason Segel's teary-eyed rendition of the theme from *The Muppet Show*. ★★☆☆☆

### FUGITIVE PIECES

This lethally dull adaptation of Anne Michaels' novel is exactly the kind of lifeless drama that gives Canadian cinema a bad name. Snoozy in the extreme. ★★☆☆☆

### HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY

Crude, raunchy, uneven, but a lot cleverer than it looks: this comic odyssey argues rousing for an America where you're not judged by the colour of your skin, but by the content of your brain. ★★☆☆☆

### IRON MAN

Robert Downey Jr., that indestructible superhero among Hollywood actors, has found the role he was born to play: an alcoholic playboy genius who lies around the globe spreading peace (but causing massive explosions). This is the best comic-book adaptation since *Superman*. ★★☆☆☆

### MADE OF HONOR

This by-the-numbers romantic comedy starring Patrick Dempsey is... well, McCreary. And you know what? We're docking it half a star just for that idiotic title. ★☆☆☆☆

### REDBELT

A David Mamet jujitsu movie starring Chiwetel Ejiofor, Emily Mortimer, and Tim Allen? It's a dubious-sounding proposition, but it's Mamet's most enjoyable movie in years, even with the ludicrous ending. Or maybe because of it. ★★☆☆☆

### SPEED RACER

The most visually adventurous movie of the year—and perhaps the least intellectually stimulating. But those candy colours sure are shiny and pretty! ★★☆☆☆

### THEN SHE FOUND ME

The directorial debut of former sitcom star Helen Hunt is a mixed bag: strong contributions from Bette Midler and Colin Firth, but drab visuals and a bloodless lead performance from Hunt herself. Looks like we're going to have to split those stars right up the middle... ★★☆☆☆

### YOUNG @ HEART

This genuinely uplifting documentary about a Massachusetts seniors' chorus whose repertoire includes The Ramones, Talking Heads, and The Clash has a spark that makes even Mick Jagger's unflagging stage energy in *Shine a Light* pale by comparison. A crowd-pleaser! ★★☆☆☆

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—CABARET CHANTEUSE SHERI SOMERVILLE, ON THE CHALLENGES OF SINGING IGGY POP

DANCE PREVIEW • SHERI MEETS IGGY • BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 866 words

## Sheri Somerville Stretches

**THE JAZZ CHANTEUSE TRANSFORMS INTO A ROCK-SINGING MODERN DANCER IN NINE POINTS TO NAVIGATE**

### NINE POINTS TO NAVIGATE

Created and performed by Brian Webb and Sheri Somerville. May 15-18. Second Playing Space (Timmins Centre for the Arts, University of Alberta). Tickets available through TIX on the Square (420-757/tixonthesquare.ca).

Could Sheri Somerville be Edmonton's most protean performer? If the idea seems unlikely, maybe it's because she seems so natural and at home, no matter what setting she appears in.

Perhaps she's best known as a cabaret/jazz singer, with two CDs (*Crazy Love* and *In My Arms*) to her credit. But she's also part of Stewart Lemoine's stock company, playing a haughty singer in *Eros and the Itchy Ant* and an obstreperous secretary in *Skirts on Fire*. She's also a core member of the cast of *Die-Nasty!*, more than able to hold her own opposite master improvisers like Jeff Haslam and Dana Andersen. She's sung Kurt Weill for Edmonton Opera and *Fiddler on the Roof* for Citadel Theatre.

And now she's about to make her debut as a modern dancer in *Nine Points to Navigate*, a show she developed with local choreographer Brian Webb about their relationships with their fathers. Can a stint as a trapeze artist with Firefly Theatre be far behind?

"When Brian told me he wanted me to dance in the show, I told him, 'You must be ruthless with me,'" she says. "Modern dance is a medium that is not my usual thing. So I have to insist this has to be genuine, it has to be authentic. We can't bullshit the public, because they are not easily fooled. We can't just be noodling." Do you know what I mean?"



**Their Fathers' Children** | Sheri Somerville and Brian Webb pay homage to their dads (and Trent Reznor) in *Nine Points to Navigate*. PHOTO BY LILL BROTHERS PHOTOGRAPHY

Somerville will also be singing in the show, but the song choices may surprise audiences who thought her repertoire was limited pretty much to music older than she is: Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, George Gershwin. "Brian's original idea was that I do a work by Schönberg," Somerville says. "And I listened to it and thought, 'Hmmm... Modern dance and Schönberg? I don't know. Why don't we just also set everyone in the audience on fire?'"

Instead, the pair went in the opposite direction, bringing in a rock band led by Howard Fix and Haley Simons and choosing music by the likes of Trent Reznor and Iggy Pop.

SEE asked Somerville to share her thoughts on some of the songs in the show and how they form a sort of informal musical autobiography.

### "THE BALLAD OF THE SAD YOUNG MEN"

"This is sort of the anthem of the show: it's an old jazz song that Rickie Lee Jones recorded a few years ago; it's on my second album as well. This is, I think, one of the most powerful songs. I find it painful, actually. Naked. It reminds me so much of my father, who had died by the time I was 12 and was one of those soldiers who let the war go when it was over—but he only let it go ver-

bally. He was very damaged by the war, and I witnessed that. He was dying, he was in a lot of pain, this big, beautiful, sensitive man. So I have a lot of sadness around men from that decade, and when I first heard that song, it completely blew me away. I always thought of my father when I recorded it, and when Brian heard it, he went, 'Oh, my goodness, this is what the whole show is about!' We didn't want to make it too morose or melancholy, but at the same time you can't reconstruct your memories to be something they're not."

### "REAL WILD CHILD"

"Brian's parents were very orderly

and dressed nicely and had nice cocktail parties and so on, whereas he was this bad boy when he was a teen and did a lot of dope smoking and skipping school. And he was a big Iggy Pop fan. He told me this great story about ditching school and getting stoned and his dad coming home unexpectedly. So I was looking for an Iggy Pop song to tag onto the end of his monologue, and I was going through CDs and found this one [off *Blah Blah Blah*] and thought, 'Perfect.' Singing Iggy Pop definitely calls on different muscles from what I'm used to—it requires a real vocal abandon. Legato lines, beautiful tones? Forget it: it's loud, it's oversinging. I can't do it all the time because I'll shred my voice, but it's super-fun!"

### "PAINT IT BLACK"

"This Rolling Stones song was the last one we added. We needed something about loss that wasn't sad. It's a rant, that song, right? I can't believe this is happening, and I reject it, and I'm pissed off, and nobody gets to be happy either! It really seemed to fit."

### "THAT LONESOME ROAD"

"We needed a song that's a little motivational, and this James Taylor song seemed to fit. I thought it was important, especially in my case, as I went through these memories, a lot of which are fairly sad, not to seem all 'boo-hoo.' We both got something from these men. I may not have gotten the traditional things from my father—a scholarship or a ride to school or advice on how to be a good businesswoman—but I got other things. And this song is about wisdom, and how it can take a little time to get through to you. I certainly don't feel like I got ripped off."



**Meaty, Beaty, Big And Bouncy** | The cast of *Meat Bikini* models the latest in edible swimwear... Worcester's sauce not included. PHOTO SUPPLIED

## ARTS NEWS • NOTABLE HAPPENINGS FROM THE THEATRE TO THE GALLERY

### SEXUAL PERVERSITY!

#### Swimsuit Issues

At a time when most Edmonton theatre companies shy away from any show that requires more than four actors, a talent like Kristine Nutting is a valuable commodity. Her version of Anton Chekhov's *Three Sisters* at the 2005 Fringe was more than a play; it was a veritable three-ring circus. She'll be serving up another heaping helping of prairie perversity this Sunday at 9 p.m. at The ARTery with *Meat Bikini*, a wild night of burlesque, unconvincing drag queens, the sweaty indie-rock, and Jesse Gervais in something called the "Meat Pool." We pity whoever has the job of cleaning up when it's all over.

### ARTISTS IN BONDAGE!

#### I Shall Be Released

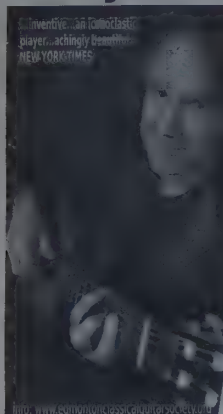
In 1940, composer Olivier Messiaen was captured and sent to a German POW camp, where he set to work composing a quartet for the instruments he had at hand: clarinet, violin, cello, and piano. *Quartet for the End of Time* premiered in 1941 before an audience of prisoners and guards. "Never," Messiaen would later say, "was I listened to with such rapt attention and comprehension." The St. Crispin's Chamber Ensemble will be recreating that performance in a series of haunting multimedia concerts at Catalyst Theatre from May 15-17. See if you can match the rapt attention of Messiaen's original audience.

### EDIFICE COMPLEX!

#### Obiter Dick Der

Dick Der's show at Scott Gallery is called *Snapshots*, but it's actually a collection of paintings. Whoa—he's confusing us already, and that's not even taking into account the fact that these paintings also incorporate so much plywood, gravel, metal, wire, wood, and rebar that they verge on sculpture. The idea, says Der, is to evoke the texture of the city—not the shiny metropolis that local politicians like to dream of, but the hardscrabble, inner-city reality, full of buildings halfway towards behind built and halfway towards falling down. Take a tour through the beautiful wreckage anytime before May 27.

# Benjamin Verdery



inventive, an accomplished player, achingly beautiful. NEW YORK TIMES

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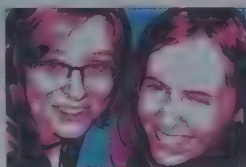


VISUAL ARTS • A/V FUNHOUSE 175 words

# Light Supremacy



Snow Angel | Michael Snow's "Two Sides to Every Story" is one of the visual delights that make up *Projections*. IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA



ART BOX **MANDY ESPEZEL & JILL STANTON**  
**JILL AND MANDY LIKE THE**  
**IMAGERY IN PROJECTIONS AT**  
**THE AGA, BUT ALL THE NOISE**  
**FREAKS THEM OUT**

This week Jill and Mandy visit the Art Gallery of Alberta and expose themselves to *Projections*, an exhibition that challenges and distorts reality in the most wonderfully unsettling ways.

**Mandy:** As I entered this exhibition, I immediately became aware of how nervous the whole thing made me. I may be extra-susceptible to getting freaked out, but with all those ghostlike images fluttering around, I almost had a heart attack. But after I calmed down, I realized there were some very beautiful things happening. What was your reaction?

**Jill:** I can understand why you were freaked—some of it is pretty creepy, plus there were all the weird noises from multiple old-timey projection machines going all at once. In fact, that may have been my main issue with the show as a whole: I know that the noise is an integral part of any exhibition that incorporates projections and Super 8 film, but I was more distracted by them. They gave off a weird, chaotic, panicky fun-house vibe, which detracted from some of the (intended) quieter mo-

ments, such as Gar Smith's "Notes on Light" (the one with the photographs from sunsets and sunrises from across Canada, which made me swoon a little bit). I think when these pieces were shown originally, they might have stood alone, and were better off for it.

**Mandy:** It did become almost ridiculous how many different layers of noise bombard you in this show. There were quite a few individual pieces, but I want to mention one that really stood out for me: Wyn Geleynse's "An Imaginary Situation With Truthful Behavior." The piece is a row of glass houses; the walls of the first few to the right are smashed open, while the remaining couple of houses on the left are untouched. There is a red button on the wall that, when you press it, projects the image of a nude man onto a panel inside one of the houses near the middle, where he kneels and scratches at the wall, trying to break through. This thing almost made me cry, it was so frustrating and direct. The man repeatedly looks right at you with a very accusatory stare, intensifying his digging. Once the film runs out, all that's left is this frosted halo of his shape.

**Jill:** I have a hard time with pieces like the ones in this show. Obviously part of the point of them is to be slightly off-putting and make the viewer a little bit uncomfortable in their surroundings. But I always find myself not knowing what's going on—not knowing whether I should find a button to push, not knowing where exactly to look, not knowing how long to stay there and if the point of the piece will present itself

if I leave too soon. For example, the first piece right when you walk in, the one with the book and the projection of nothing on the wall—were you supposed to do something with that? Or was that it?

**Mandy:** I wasn't too sure about that one either. It's a very slow-moving shift that is supposed to suggest sunlight through a window sliding across the wall. I think this is the kind of exhibit that warrants multiple visits. I wanted to stay all day and watch the accompanying work by Bill Viola, "The Reflecting Pool."

**Jill:** I'm too impatient, I guess. But you never know! I could have just been standing there for hours waiting for something to happen! Why were you so enthralled with Viola's work? Is it because you've always dreamed of having a magic pool in the middle of the forest reflecting things that don't exist?

**Mandy:** That's pretty much what every kid wants, isn't it? You know, it's amazing to me how something like "The Reflecting Pool" is able to be so powerful. There is simplicity to the whole setup that allows you to be there with what's happening. It eases you into its more unusual or surreal aspects, not just abruptly throwing them at you. You become convinced that, yes, this is a place and that man is standing there. Whatever happens following that is "real" because of that initial truthfulness.

**Jill:** Mandy, you are as deep as the pool itself. Congrats!

**Mandy:** Why, Jill, why must you scoff?

*Projections* is on display at the Art Gallery of Alberta until June 8.

THEATRE PREVIEW • NOT AN ANIMAL! • BY ADAM SMITH | 510 words

# Michael Peng, Elephant Trainer

**THE ELEPHANT MAN IS REALLY A STORY ABOUT SEEING, NOT BEING LOOKED AT, SAYS DIRECTOR**

## THE ELEPHANT MAN

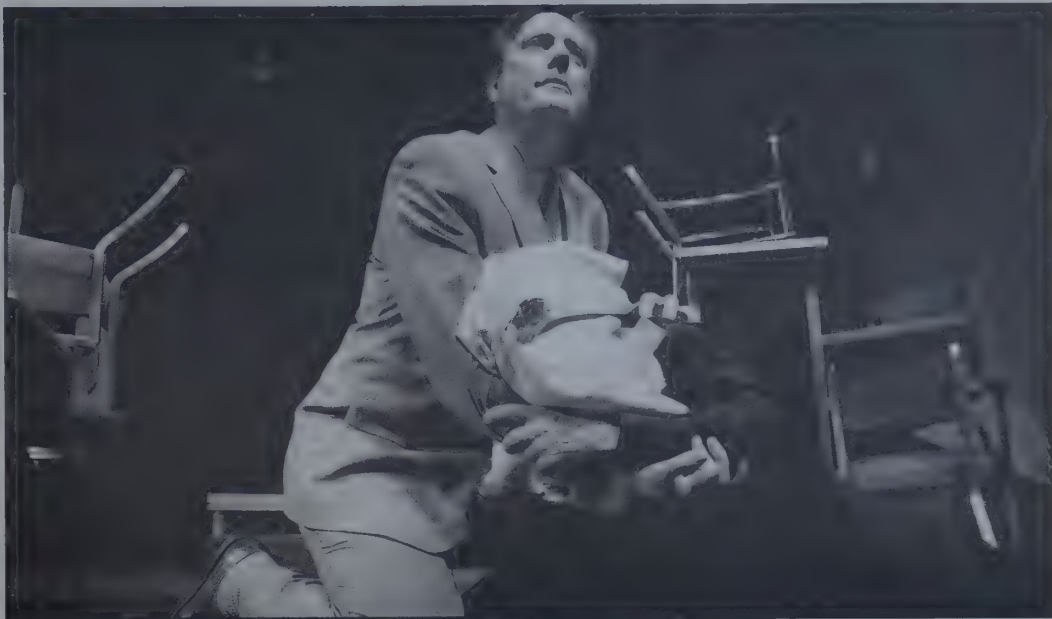
Directed by Michael Peng. Written by Bernard Pomerance. Starring Frank Zotter and George Szilagyi. May 15-24. Timms Centre for the Arts (University of Alberta). Tickets available through TIX on the Square (420-1757/tixonthesquare.ca).

As I sit down with director Michael Peng at a university coffee shop to talk about his production of Bernard Pomerance's 1978 play *The Elephant Man*, we're joined by Frederick Treves, the 19th-century doctor and saviour/exploiter of the hideously deformed John Merrick.

Well, not literally by Treves, of course, but by George Szilagyi, the actor playing him, who sits quietly off to the side, observing us from behind a daily paper. Peng then supplies me with a handy segue by noting that observation—audiences gawking at freaks, doctors observing their patients—is one of the play's key motifs.

"I wanted to examine the way people look at someone as a function before they see them as a human being," says Peng, who has chosen *The Elephant Man* as his M.F.A. thesis production. "Getting beyond the skin is a major theme in the play."

That theme will be built right into Frank Zotter's lead performance as Merrick. Unlike John Hurt in David Lynch's 1980 film based on Merrick's life, Zotter (whom Edmonton audiences will recall from his solo turn earlier this season in *Stuck for Workshop West*) will not be wearing any makeup or special prosthetics, and



Gorgeous George | George Szilagyi as Dr. Frederick Treves cradles Frank Zotter as John Merrick in *The Elephant Man*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

will instead be conveying Merrick's deformities through body language and other characters' reactions to him. Not an easy task. "Frank is a good-looking guy," Peng says, "and the cast needed to respond to him with a combination of repulsiveness and fascination... I reminded the cast of what they were seeing. We used visual aids—searching YouTube, you find modern equivalents."

For Peng, allowing Zotter to look "normal" onstage was in keeping with his goal of making the play a

personal experience. "It forces the audience to use their imagination," he says. "Which is good—it will remind them of people they have met or seen that are different from themselves, instead of just seeing Merrick, 'The Elephant Man.' It creates a more personal connection with the story."

If Peng and Lynch's approaches to the material intersect, it's in their fascination with the Victorian era, the sense of a physically repressed society existing within an increasingly

industrialized city. Peng's eyes light up as he shuffles through his production binder, which is stuffed to overflowing with notes, medical sketches, and period X-rays. He lingers over an X-ray of a woman squeezed into a traditional steel-framed corset.

Some of those period diagrams and medical sketches will be incorporated into the show as video imagery, but Peng stops short of describing *The Elephant Man* as a "mixed media" production. The intent, Peng says, is more to "evoke a sense of the Victo-

rian era without realism—to modernize it."

And indeed, the central question of the play—is Treves taking advantage of Merrick's deformity for his own gain, or is he the unfortunate man's saviour?—feels newly relevant in this era of exploitative pop culture.

"Treves' career was made on [Merrick's] case," Peng notes, "and I was playing with how deliberate that was. Treves' journey in the play is that he learns to be compassionate; he isn't at the start, but at the end he is."

THEATRE REVIEW • HOWL OF PAIN • BY TOM MURRAY | 486 words

# Suicide Is Far From Painless

**PLAYS DON'T GET MUCH DARKER THAN SARAH KANE'S 4:48 PSYCHOSIS... OR MORE SOUL-SHATTERING**

## 4:48 PSYCHOSIS

Directed by Amy DeFelice. Starring Clarice Eckford, Lara Brovold, Melissa Thingelstad. To May 18. PCL Studio (Transalta Arts Bams). Tickets available through TIX on the Square (420-1757/tixonthesquare.ca).

Words have failed in *4:48 Psychosis*—both as a means of communication, and as a way to heal—but that doesn't stop the torrent.

They're chalked on the floor in frenzied bouts of action, repeated as litany of anger and fear, directed inwardly and out. Much of the "dialogue" in Sarah Kane's play (the last one she wrote before committing suicide at the age of 28) is a series of negations—to the doctors, to loved ones, to the characters themselves.

This isn't a final statement on



The Mirror Crack'd | Clarice Eckford and Lara Brovold assess each other's level of suffering in *4:48 Psychosis*. PHOTO SUPPLIED

Kane's behalf about hope or transcendence, or even a cry for help; it's a renunciation of life, and a complete break from all notions of what constitutes sanity. The lines unspool like free verse, fragments that wind down into nothingness, with no set characters of any particular gender to speak them. The script of *4:48 Psychosis*

contains no dialogue cues or stage directions, which means each production has to determine how to parcel out those lines and give them some shape—for hers, director Amy DeFelice has picked Clarice Eckford, Lara Brovold, and Melissa Thingelstad.

She's chosen wisely. Eckford and Brovold are both excellent, and

Thingelstad is a standout—the calm of much of her performance is so measured that the slightest increase in pressure on a syllable when she does finally break is explosive. To play characters steeped in a depression so deep it results in gallows humour so deadpan that it takes a few moments for the "humour" to sink in—and obsessive, scabrous reiteration of certain words could lead any actor into overthinking, but all three walk the line beautifully. It seems like an impossible task for audience, director and actors alike—there's no narrative to *4:48 Psychosis* but there is a spine, and a creeping progression so insistent it plays out at times like *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* as performed by the inmates from *Marat/Sade*.

The play is almost impossible to write about except in terms of empathy. If we can appreciate Eckford, Thingelstad, and Brovold for their

craft, or Jeff Osterlin for his disturbing visuals, we still have to come to terms with the subject, which is Kane's unapologetic final words to the world. It cuts deep. The play itself might be an erratic path through the mind of a terminally depressed woman bundled into the hospital after a suicide attempt, or it might be a series of conversations between a patient and her doctor. It might be something else entirely. All that really comes through is torment so severe it can rock you if you aren't prepared.

This might seem like less a positive review than a warning, but I don't necessarily mean it that way: true, *4:48 Psychosis* is not for the faint of heart, but it is essential viewing. Ten minutes in and you wonder how you're going to survive the next hour—another 10 minutes and you wonder if you can leave when it's over.

# the elephant man

by bernard pomerance

timms centre for the arts | university of alberta  
may 15 to 24, '08 at 7:30 pm  
student tickets \$10

Advanced tickets at TIX on the Square  
420.1757 | www.tixonthesquare.ca

Walk-up tickets available  
at Timms Box office  
one hour before each show.

STUDIO THEATRE.CA

## EXHIBITS

**ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL** 455 KING ST., SPRUCE GROVE.  
967-0664. Info: www.alliedartscouncil.com.  
**ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL** 10186-106 ST., 488-6611 EXT. 271. Until May 31 "Alterra is My Home," functional pottery works by Sam Ubbick. Info: www.albertacraft.ca.

**AGNES BUGERA GALLERY** 1230 JASPER AVE., UNTIL MAY 23. "Core Samples" by Scott Pleas. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm.

**A.J. OTTEWELL ARTS CENTRE** 590 BROADMOOR BLVD., SHERWOOD PARK. 449-4443. Info: Sonia, 922-3179.

**THE ARTERY** 9535 JASPER AVE. Hours: Thu 5-7 pm, by appointment. Info: theatreynoiseab.com.

**ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA** ENTERPRISE SQUARE, #100, 10230 JASPER AVE., 462-6223. Until June 8 "Projections," projection art from 1969-1989.

featuring works by Michael Snow, David Hockes, and Ian Carr-Harris. "The Reflecting Pool" by Bill Viola and "Raw Material OK OK OK" by Bruce Nauman. Hours: Mon-Fri 10:30 am-5 pm, Thu 4-8 pm free admission. Sat & Sun 11 am-5 pm. Info: www.artgalleryalberta.com.

**ARTS HUB STUDIO GALLERY** 360 FL., 10217-106 ST., 439-9532. Hours: Tue 5-8 pm, or by appointment. Info: www.artshab.com.

**BEARCLAW GALLERY** 10403-124 ST., 482-1204. Info: bearcawgallery.com.

**BLUE CURVE GALLERY** GLENROSE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL, 10230-111 AVE. Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 am-2 pm.

**CABINET GALLERY** NOKOMIS CLOTHING, 10318-82 AVE. Info: www.instituteparadise.ca.

**THE CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE** 9351-118 AVE., 471-1580. "The Rescue," installation by glass artist Keith Walker. Info: www.thecarrot.ca.

**CENTRE D'ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA** 9103-95 AVE., 461-3427. Until June 4 "Group Show," featuring a selection of works among the 140 different artists members of this gallery. Info: 461-3427.

**CHRISTL BERGSTROM'S RED GALLERY** 9621-82 AVE., 439-8210. "Mother and Child," by Christl Bergstrom. Hours: Mon-Fri 11 am-5 pm.

**DOUGLAS UDELL GALLERY** 10332-124 ST., 488-4445. Hours: Tue-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm. Info: douglasudellgallery.com.

**ELECTRUM DESIGN STUDIO** 12419 STONY PLAIN RD., 462-1402. New works from various artists. Info: waynemackenziegoldsmith.com.

**EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY** MAIN FLOOR ATRIUM, ENTERPRISE SQUARE, 10230 JASPER AVE. Hours: Daily 7 am-11 pm. Info: www.extensionalberta.ca.

**FAB GALLERY** F-1 FINE ARTS BUILDING, U OF A CAMPUS. Until May 31 "Seeing Through Modernism: Edmonton 1910-1985" features over 100 Modernist artists. Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 2-5 pm.

**FRINGE GALLERY** 10216 WHYTE AVE., 437-0240. Until May 31 "Unlickered" by Christine Wallen, acrylics on canvas. Info: www.paintspot.ca.

**FRONT GALLERY** 12312 JASPER AVE., 488-2952. Various paintings depicting birds by Jeff Sylvestre. Info: 488-2952.

**GALLERY AT MILNER STANLEY & MILNER LIBRARY**, #7 CHURCHILL SQUARE. Until May 21. "A Self Portrait," by Aboriginal students from Edmonton public schools. Info: 496-1030.

**HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY** 310 FL., 10215-112 ST., 426-1480. Until May 24 "Issued Paper" by Judy Anderson, and "To Sverre and Rect" by Roger Craft. Info: www.harcourthouse.ca.

**JEFF ALLEN GALLERY** STRATHCONA SENIORS CENTRE, 10831 UNIVERSITY AVE., 433-5807. Until May 29 "Burst of Color" by various artists. Hours: Mon-Thu 9 am-4 pm.

**JOHNSON GALLERY** 771-85 ST., 465-6171. Edmonton oil painters working in-studio throughout the season. Artists featured include Susan Abma, Susan Box, Shari Hines, David Brooks, Margaret Klappstein, Tracy Marton, Anne McCormick, and Cindy Revell. Info: susanabma.com.

**LANDO GALLERY** 11830-105 AVE., 990-1161. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-4:30 pm. Info: www.landogallery.com.

**LATITUDE 53** 10248-106 ST., 423-5353. Hours: Tue-Fri 10 am-6 pm, Sat 12-5 pm. Info: www.latitude53.org.

**LOFT GALLERY** A.J. OTTEWELL CENTRE, 590 BROADMOOR BLVD., SHERWOOD PARK. 467-4481. Until May 31 New works by artists Anne McCartney, Audrey Josephson, Dorothy Burgess, Brenda Doris, Desirée Plewis, Cornelia Martin-Hansen, Barbara Car-Kowalewski, and Ruth Campbell. Hours: Thurs 5-9 pm, and Sat 10 am-5 pm (except holiday weekends). Info: Kaye 467-4481.

**MACEWAN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS** 10045-156 ST. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat-Sun 12-5 pm.

**MANDOLIN BOOKS** 6419-112 AVE., 479-4050.

**MCNULLEN GALLERY** 8440-112 ST., U OF A HOSPITAL, 467-7152. Until June 15 "Extraordinary Places: Canada's UNESCO World Heritage Sites," fibre artists Donna Clement and Lesley Turner examine UNESCO sites in Canada. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat-Sun noon-6 pm.

Admission free.

**NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE** 9704-111 AVE., 474-7611. Until May 28 "Come What May 2008" includes various paintings. Studio hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-7 pm. Gallery hours: Mon, Wed & Fri 9:30 am-2:30 pm, Tue & Thu 9:30 am-4 pm & 6-8 pm. Info: www.ninahaggertyart.ca.

**NORTH EDMONTON SCULPTURE WORKSHOP** 10546-115 ST., 482-2685. Daytime viewing by appointment: 482-2685.

**OUT OF THE FIRE STUDIO** 12214 JASPER AVE., 378-0240. Info: www.outoffirestudio.com.

**PETER ROBERTSON GALLERY** 10183-112 ST., 455-2479. Until May 27 new works by Phil Darrah. Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm. Info: www.peterrobertsongallery.com.

**PICTURE THIS GALLERY** 959 ORIZOR RD., SHERWOOD PARK. 467-3038. Until May 22. "Masterpieces in Miniature," selections from 40 artists across North America. Info: www.picturethisgallery.com.

**PLANET Z DESIGN CENTRE** 10055-80 AVE., 428-3499. Ongoing displays include functional sculpture and jewelry by Sandra Sing Fernandes, metal sculpture by Linda Marles and Bianca Khan, and paintings by Quentin Maki and Tim Rechner.

**PORTAL GALLERY** #300, 9414-91 ST., 702-7522. Until May 27 "Flickers" by Kamal Toor. Hours: Tue-Fri 12-8 pm, Sat 12-7 pm. Info: www.theportalgallery.com.

**PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY** 19 PERRON ST., ST. ALBERT. 460-4310. May 15 "Plaster Body Cast," cast part of your body into an experimental sculptural art form. May 24 "ArtVentures" drop-in children's program. Create sculptures with unique and unusual materials. Info: 460-4310.

**ROWLES & CO. LTD. MEZZANINE LEVEL**, 10180-103 ST., 426-4035. Info: www.rowles.ca.

**SCOTT GALLERY** 10411-124 ST., 488-3619. Until May 27 "Snapshots" a solo exhibition of new mixed media paintings by Dick Der. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm. Info: www.scottgallery.com.

**SCULPTURE STUDIO & GALLERY** SHERWOOD PARK, 662-4160. Figurative and abstract sculpture by Horst D. Info: www.horst-sculpture.ca.

**SELFRIDGE POTTERY STUDIO** 9844-48 AVE., 439-9296. Hours: 11 am-5 pm. Info: www.selfridgepottery.com.

**SNAP GALLERY SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ALBERTA PRINT ARTISTS** 10309-91 ST., 423-1492. Hours: Tue-Sat 12-5 pm. Info: snap@snartists.com.

**STUDIO GALLERY** 11 PERRON ST., ST. ALBERT. 460-5993. Until May 31 "Skies, Stubble, and Sloughs" by Bruce Thompson. Hours: Tue-Fri 10 am-6 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm.

**TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE** 1121-12 ST., 451-3344. Permanent Exhibits include The Body Fantastic, Mystery Arena, The Greens' House, Space Place, Discoveryland, and Dinobon in the Explorer Gallery. Synchrone Stage Stage features science demos, Cryogenics, Electricity, and What Puts The Fizz in Soda Pop? Info: 451-3344. www.odysseyum.com.

**TU GALLERY** 10718-124 ST., 452-9662. Info: www.tugallery.ca.

**URBAN ROOTS** 10418-82 AVE., 438-7978. Until May 31 "Two Artists, Two Visions" sculptures by Horst Doll and paintings by Paddy Lamb. Hours: Wed-Sat 12-4 pm. Info: 438-7978.

**VAAA GALLERY VISUAL ARTS ALBERTA ASSOCIATION** 310 FL., 10215-112 ST., 421-7311. Until May 24 "True Colours", watercolours by Wilfred Chiu and fibre art by Ann Haesell. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-4 pm, Sat 12-4 pm.

**WEST END GALLERY** 1208 JASPER AVE., 488-4892. May 17-25 "Victoria" by Glen Semple includes various flower acrylics. Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5 pm. Info: www.westendgalleryltd.com.

**WORKS GALLERY** #200, 10225-100 AVE., 426-2122. Hours: Mon-Fri 12-5 pm. Info: www.theworks.ab.ca.

**ZIEGLER HUGHES GALLERY & SERENDIPITY FRAMING** 9860-90 AVE., 433-0388. Anahuacalli Mexican jewelry and art works by Canadian and Mexican artists. Hours: Tue-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thu-Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat noon-6 pm, Sun-Mon noon-5 pm.

**ZOCALO** 10816-95 ST., 428-0754. International crafts, artwork, and tropical flowers. Hours: Mon-Wed & Fri 10-6 pm, Thu 10-9 pm, Sat 9-5 pm, Sun 12-5 pm.

### HOT PICK

ESTROGEN: Hey Ladies!

Stewart Bransen and Roalson-Quinto: The View.

May 16, 8pm. THEROKY

double-long hangar. Hours: Daily, 10 am-4 pm.

**CANADIAN PETROLEUM DISCOVERY CENTRE** LEDUC #1 DISCOVERY WELL, LEDUC. Guided tours, tailored education programs for classes K-12, safety courses and industry training, campgrounds, library, and historical archives. Info: 1-866-967-4323 or www.pc.gc.ca

**CITY OF EDMONTON ARCHIVES** 10440-108 AVE., 496-8770. Over 500,000 photographic photos and slides from the 1880s to the present. Two display galleries. Free admission. Hours: Weekdays 9:30 am-4:30 pm.

**JOHN WALTER MUSEUM** 10661-91A AVE., 496-8787. Admission free, donations gladly accepted. Info: www.edmonton.ca/johnwaltermuseum

**LOVAL EDMONTON REGIMENT MILITARY MUSEUM** 1911, PRINCE OF WALES ARMOURIES HERITAGE CENTRE, 10440-108 AVE. Hours: Weekdays 10 am-4 pm.

**MUSEE HERITAGE #5 ST. ANNE ST., ST. ALBERT.** 459-1528. Hours: Mon-Sat, 10 am-5 pm; Sun, 1-5 pm. Admission by donation, suggested donation \$2.

**PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA** 5555 ROPER RD., 472-7750. Preserving the collective memory of Alberta, and the protection of Albertan identity. Info: www.tpr.gc.ca/abca/paa.

**ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM** 12845-102 AVE., 493-9100. Hours: Mon-Sun, 9am-5pm. Info: www.royalalbertamuseum.ca.

**STRATHCONA COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES** 919 ASH ST., SHERWOOD PARK. 476-8189. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-4 pm. Info: www.strathconacounty.museum.ca.

## DANCE

**DANCE OF UNIVERSAL PEACE** 2ND & 4TH THU EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM. RIVERDALE HALL, 923-100 AVE. Info: 461-1285.

**NINE POINTS TO NAVIGATE** MAY 15-17, 8 PM AND 2 PM. MAY 18, 8 PM. TIMMS CENTRE, 88 AVE. & 112 ST. An interdisciplinary dance piece presented by BWOC and Sheri Sommerweil. Tickets: \$25. Info: student/senior at TIX.

**RODA DE CAPOEIRA SATURDAYS**, 1-5 PM. CAPOEIRA ACADEMY, 10500-130 AVE., 709-3500. A live performance of Capoeira, a Brazilian art of dance, martial arts and music, invented by African slaves. Info: www.capeoiaedmonton.ca.

## THEATRE

**4&8 PSYCHOSES** UNTIL MAY 17, 8 PM, SAT 2 PM. TRANS-ALTA ARTS BARN. Play by controversial English writer, Sarah Kane. Directed by Amy Defelice. Tickets: \$18. \$15 students/seniors at TIX.

**A BUDDY HOLLY BIRTHDAY BASH** UNTIL JUNE 8. JUBILATIONS DINNER THEATRE, WENT. Tribute to the beginnings of rock and roll and Buddy Holly. Info: 484-2424.

**COMPANY IN CONCERT** UNTIL MAY 17, 7 PM. STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, CHURCHILL SQUARE. Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Tickets: \$10 at the door. Info: 443-0762.

**CRAYE** MAY 16-25, 8 PM. TUE-SAT 2 PM. THE THIRD SPACE, 11516-103 ST. Explores the deconstruction of the human mind under the pressures of love, loss, and longing. Tickets: \$16. \$14 students/seniors at the door.

**THE ELEPHANT MAN** MAY 15-24, 7:30 PM. TIMMS CENTRE, 88 AVE. & 112 ST. Bernard Pomerance's Award winning play. Tickets at Timms Centre Box Office.

**THE END OF THE PROJECT** MAY 15-17, 8 PM, MAY 18, 2 PM. CATALYST THEATRE, 8259-103 ST. Multimedia performance of Oliver Messiaen's visionary quartet. Tickets: \$20, \$10 student/senior at TIX.

**HEY LADIES!** MAY 16, 8 PM. THE THROXY, 10728-12 ST. Off-beat "lifestyle show" mixed with make-overs, prizes, chit-chat, and possible lawsuits. Tickets: \$20 at TIX.

**MEAT BIKIN': A PEEP SHOW OF THE PRAIRIE PERVERSE** MAY 18, 8 PM. THE ARTERY. Theatrical event showcasing hilariously burlesque, music, and dismemberment, and a mashup of everything in between. Tickets: \$12 at the door.

**RAPID FIRE THEATRE** EVERY FRI & SAT, 11 PM. VARSCONA THEATRE, 10229-83 AVE., 448-0695. TheatreSports Fridays, Chimpz Saturdays, \$10 at the door. Info: www.rapidfiretheatre.com.

**TEATRO LA QUINDICINA** UNTIL MAY 17, 7:30 PM. VARSCONA THEATRE. The Teatro season starts with a pair of sparkling one-acts by Stewart Lemoine. Tickets: \$22, \$19 student/senior at TIX.

## LIVE COMEDY

**RAPID FIRE IMPROV** VARSCONA THEATRE, 10229-83 AVE., 448-0695. TheatreSports Fri, 11 pm. Chimpz Sat, 11 pm. \$10 at the door.

**THE COMEDY FACTORY** #408, 3414 GATEWAY BLVD., 469-4999. May 15-17 Aaron Foster. Regular showtimes Thu & Fri 8:30, Sat 8:30 & 10:30 pm. Info: www.thecomedyfactory.com.

**THE COMIC STRIP BOORNSON**, WEST EDMONTON MALL, 483-5999. Hi or Miss Mondays, amateurs compete for audience approval. Tuesdays Alternative Comedy Night.

**THE LAUGH SHOP** LONDONDRY MALL, 66 ST. & 137 AVE., 476-1010. May 15-17, Michael Kosta, Chris Gordon & Trevor Buchanan. Regular hours Thurs, Fri & Sat 8 PM and a 10:30 PM on Saturdays. Info: thelaughshop.ca.

## MUSEUMS

**ALBERTA AVIATION MUSEUM** 11410 KINGSWAY AVE., 451-1175. Edmonton bush pilot display in WWII-era double-wide,

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# It's An Open And Shut Case



**SAVAGE LOVE: DAN SAVAGE  
ASKING YOUR LONG-DISTANCE  
GIRLFRIEND NOT TO SLEEP  
AROUND ISN'T JEALOUSY; IT'S  
JUST MONOGAMY**

I'm a 31-year-old man and my girlfriend is 28. We've been in a monogamous relationship for four years. Recently we've been doing the long-distance thing, and we're going to be doing it for a while until I can move from Canada to the United States. This is our problem: She brought up the idea of an open relationship until I get down there. I said okay—trying to be GGG—and 24 hours later called her back and reneged.

Dan, I can't stand the idea of

not jealous, just monogamous.

Open relationships are great—they're not for everyone. Some folks aren't built to share a sex partner, don't want to share, and consequently shouldn't share. We're talking sex partners here, CIC, not large pizzas or pot stashes—a reluctance to share is not evidence of a character flaw. It's an alternate lifestyle choice, CIC, one that, while I don't fully understand it, I do fully support.

My boyfriend has recently confessed an interest in gaining weight and has asked me to explore this kink with him. He wants me to feed him during sex, and generally encourage him to gain weight. I love the man too much to care if he gains a little weight, but I don't think he's interested in gaining just a little. As much as I would love to indulge his kink, I also don't want him to bite the dust at age 40 from some obesity-related disease. Before I

on me. Presumably it had been lying dormant or his first outbreak was so small he didn't notice. Either way, it was quite obviously an unpleasant situation, but we handled it pretty well, I think.

Unfortunately, that relationship has now ended and I find myself not knowing how to deal with the thought of future partners. I've never had any symptoms and we

were pretty careful (condom use, no sex during his outbreak) once we discovered the issue, but we had been having unprotected sex for about a year before the outbreak and I know that condoms are not 100 per cent effective anyway. So here's the issue: Do I tell future partners in advance that I've been exposed and risk scaring them off over a disease I don't

seem to have? I have been having nightmares about having terrible outbreaks and about spreading the infection, but I don't know if that's an overactive guilt complex or what.

I really have no idea how to handle this situation. I want to be responsible, but also not cause

SAVAGE cont'd pg. 51

**LOOK, KIDDO: THERE'S A DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN BEING A JEALOUS ASSHOLE AND BEING  
A SELF-AWARE SEX PARTNER.**

another guy with her. I can't. I trust her and, as much as anyone in this situation can say this, I believe that she would only be after the sex if she slept with another guy—but the idea of another guy doing anything to her drives me nuts. I've read that open relationships just don't work for some people. But I also believe in being able to improve yourself. Is my jealousy a negative trait that I can get over?

Help me be modern!

*Confused In Canada*

Help you be modern, CIC? But there's nothing premodern about your feelings, no area where you require "improvement," nothing you need to get over.

Look, kiddo, there's a difference between being a jealous asshole and being a self-aware sex partner. Asking your girlfriend to remain monogamous until you get your ass down to the U.S.? That's just stating a sexual preference, if I may rephrase that phrase. A sincere desire to be your girlfriend's one and only sex partner should not be confused with something as base as jealousy. Jealousy is not trusting your girlfriend when she's out of your sight; it's flipping out when other men notice her; it's making furious and baseless accusations of cheating. Jealousy is controlling/manipulative/abusive behavior masquerading as insecurity. Jealousy is a poison. And you're

turn down his request, I wanted to ask you if you might have any ideas as to how this kink could be played out in a way that keeps us both happy and healthy. Thanks. Don't Want To Kill Husband Material

Feed him carrots.

I am a 25-year-old straight woman who recently got out of a monogamous relationship with a man with herpes. He developed symptoms for the first time a year into our relationship and I believe him when he said he hadn't cheated

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# An Inflated Sense Of Self-Worth



**MY MESSY BEDROOM JOSEY VOGELS  
BALLOON FETISHISM IS ONLY  
ONE OF DOZENS OF STRANGE  
SEXUAL SUBCULTURES NOW  
THRIVING ON THE INTERNET**

I feel so boring. If I blow up a balloon, I might have a little fun knocking it around the room for a while, but that's about it. If I throw a pie in someone's face, sure, I'll get a giggle out of it, but it's hardly gonna make me come.

cause because a lot of people have those very same childhood experiences and don't turn into fetishists. There has to be a way in which the person is somehow primed to interpret that early experience in a powerful, physiological way."

Most fetishists have what Gates calls an "origin myth," the day the light bulb went off and they made the connection between a non-sexual object and their own arousal. It almost always goes back to some occurrence during puberty, when they had a reaction they can identify as sexual. "They'll say, 'And then I put the balloons under my shirt and had an orgasm and that was the moment,'" explains Gates. "Well, why did they put the balloons under their shirt in the first place? Somehow

expands into a big round ball is a classic for these folks) and balloon fetish. The category of taboo-breaking includes messy fun, quicksand, pie play, and knicker-wetting.

The list goes on.

Gates says most fetishized objects and scenarios do have certain things in common. "It has to have a touchy-feely or smelly element to it," she explains. "And there has to be a drama involved. Usually this involves some kind of buildup of tension, pressure, or anticipation that culminates in some kind of release—the pop of a balloon being a perfect example."

What, you might ask, did all these people do before the Internet?

"I think they were miserable," says Gates. "I'd get tears in my eyes during interviews when people told me about the day they typed in 'balloon plus fetish' or whatever on the Internet and found they weren't the only one," Gates tells me. "The look of incredible relief, gratefulness, and revelation was incredible. Now they can live out [their fetish] in a safe, sane, and consensual manner and not be so tortured by the fact that they're different than other people."

that connection was made even earlier."

The truth is, if it exists, someone has fetishized it. A "fetish roadmap" in Gates' book divides the various fetishes into categories and subcategories. For example, under animal transformation, you have: (1) Pony play (that is, people who dress as ponies and the trainers who love them), cow play, pup play, and more; (2) furies (people who get off on stuffed animals or who like to wear furry animal outfits); and (3) vore (people who like to eroticize being eaten alive). A subcategory of vore is the Turkey Man, who gets off on pretending to be the Thanksgiving turkey to be "cooked" and "eaten" by a mother-like woman.

Under the growth category you have your macrophiles (men who get off fantasizing about giant women), crush freaks (men who enjoy fantasies of being crushed) weight gain/feeders (those who get off on watching someone gain weight or gaining weight themselves), body inflation (the scene in *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory* when Violet eats the experimental gum and her body

So why are balloons, pies, or wanting to be stuffed in the oven like a turkey such a sexual turn-on for some and not others?

"We're primates and primates are troupe-bonded creatures," explains Katherine Gates, author of *Deviant Desires: Incredibly Strange Sex*. "The more the world becomes one international megaculture, the more I think people are seeking out smaller subcultures that they can feel part of."

Like Mike Brown, aka PieMan, who has discovered a whole community of people who get off on being "pied" in the face, or Balloongirl, part of an expanding internet community of people who give the term "blowjob" new meaning.

Balloon fetishists, or "looners," as they call themselves, are sharply divided on the issue of "to pop or not to pop." "Flame wars over the issue take up a significant amount of space on the balloon-fetish chatrooms," writes Gates. "While 'non-poppers' feel an emotional attachment to balloons and can get quite protective of their inflatable friends, poppers see no point to jerking off with balloons unless they explode. As one popper puts it, 'If they don't pop, I don't pop!'"

The most common explanation is that fetishes are triggered by some childhood trauma or experience. But Gates doesn't entirely buy that. "I think it's a combination of genetic and environmental influences," she says. "It's obvious that certain childhood experiences can't be the only

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OR  
BOLLOCKS?**

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## SAVAGE (cont'd from pg. 49)

myself a huge amount of extra stress and possibly heartbreak. Help please? I'm tired of crying all the time.

So Sad Always

First, SSA, you might want to get tested—you do know you can get tested for herpes, right?—and find out, for sure, if you even have herpes. For info about tests and where to get 'em, go to [www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org).

If you do have herpes, SSA, I would encourage you to be open about it—all of it, SSA. Not just your exposure and the fact that you haven't had a single outbreak, but also the odds that the person with whom you're sharing this info has herpes himself. One out of every four adults has herpes and most of us—because we've never had an outbreak or didn't notice the one mild outbreak we may have had—aren't even aware we've got it.

But here's the best reason to disclose, SSA: your own peace of mind. You're going to want to make this a nonissue as you head into a new relationship, and the only way to accomplish that is through disclosure. If you don't disclose, you're not going to enjoy your new relationship because you're going to be stressing out the whole time about whether or when your new partner is going to have an outbreak.

Bottom line, SSA? You don't want to date guys who are hysterics about herpes—you don't need that kind of stress, either—and, averages being what they are, sooner or later you'll find yourself having the talk with a cool guy who already knows he's been exposed.

I've been married for eight years to, and have two kids by, my wife—she thinks I'm a great guy. But she has a tremendously low sex drive (once a month is good

for her) and mine is fairly high (three times a day would be perfect). At the end of the proverbial day, though, I used my wife's low sex drive as an excuse for fucking around.

This isn't a sex question, but a relationship question: I finally had that moment of clarity that made me realize what a tool I am, and how I was jeopardizing a great family life for some extra pussy (or manpussy, depending on the hookup). I decided I was done and I've stuck by that decision. Problem is, this last woman I slept with e-mailed me a few weeks ago and told me she's pregnant.

I need to tell my wife, obviously. Is there any way to tell her this without completely losing her? Dumb Tool

I don't have any magic words for you, DT, as there's just no way to

say. "Honey, I knocked someone else up" without at least risking the end of your marriage. Drop the bomb, get your asses into couples counseling, try to stay together for your kids' sakes, and when the new kid arrives, get a paternity test—and a vasectomy too, DT, just in case you're ever tempted to stray

again.

And please don't call ever call it "manpussy," DT, unless you're trying to wreck my love life, too.

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## CRUISIN' THE COSMOS

### PISCES (FEBRUARY 19 – MARCH 20)

Shark versus piranha — who'd win? You may say shark by more'n a fin, but whether you see 'em or not, the piranha's got a pack of pals out back waitin' in the parkin' lot. You may be top of the food chain as far as you're aware, but if the foe you've picked don't play by the rules, you may find your bones bein' picked bare!

### ARIES (MARCH 21 – APRIL 19)

Ugh. You finally have to face up to the fact that your pantry ain't optimally packed. Time to realize you can't always go along on your merry way 'cause this ain't a lush tropical forest — you wanna eat, you gotta pay. Bein' all business now might strike you as dull, but it'll save a bit o' brick wall and a lotta your skull!

### TAURUS (APRIL 20 – MAY 20)

You can't seriously expect your honey to see you as a hot tomato when you act instead like a couch potato. You gotta get up 'n' move, if you wanna get on your groove. Less spud, more stud! This week, if you want some romance, get off your butt, have some fun, go and dance!

### GEMINI (MAY 21 – JUNE 20)

Don't be foolin' yourself that a lucky break at the beginnin' is all it'll take to ensure winnin'. You can be in the right place at the right time, but there's still a ladder that you'll have to climb. When the Sun enters your sign this week, it'll give you a boost, but don't get that confused with rulerin' the roost!

### CANCER (JUNE 21 – JULY 22)

Now that you and a friend seem to be reachin' the end of the path you've been walkin' down, you look for quick escapes to avoid bumps 'n' scrapes but there don't seem to be none around. Them purty roses sure got a lotta thorns, don't they? Oh well, when push comes to shove, the best road to follow is love!

### LEO (JULY 23 – AUGUST 22)

You're payin' the cost to be the boss, but you don't have to pay such a premium of loss, y'know. Just 'cause people do what you expect, don't mean you've got their respect, and longevity requires that's somethin' you correct. This week, chill out about the li'l things and go easy on the underlings!

### VIRGO (AUGUST 23 – SEPTEMBER 22)

This li'l setback ain't gonna break your back, it's only gonna put you onto the right track. Sure, it requires your philosophies to be seriously upgraded, but that don't mean your fortunes have faded. You'll pull through fine if you can see what Homer Simpson would call "crisitivity."

### LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23 – OCTOBER 22)

There's a difference between bein' an influence peddler versus a garden-variety meddler. One gets held in high regard while the other's more likely to get shanked out in the yard. This week, only help out folks who ask it of you, otherwise, don't get involved, even if you know just what to do!

### SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23 – NOVEMBER 21)

There ain't nothin' like a tailwind in the direction you're facin' to give you the edge while you're racin'. However, it's more important you hone your skills 'cause a lack of control'll mean much bigger spills. A li'l good fortune may give you a push, but overestimin' your abilities'll land you flat on your tush!

### SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22 – DECEMBER 21)

Yo, speedy! Don't be so greedy! Why pick the fruit off the tree before it's fully ripe 'n' ready? If you wait and give it time for its full development, you're guaranteed the taste'll be 10 times as succulent. "The early bird may catch the worm" is moot — you're a centaur and the horse half's got a hankerin' for fruit!

### CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22 – JANUARY 19)

Sometimes even fish can't figure out why Gettin' emotionally involved'll cause more problems than you thought would get solved. On the other hand, detachin' yourself emotionally'll only put you in prison, not set you free. While you wait for this to pass, and it eventually will, all you can do is let karma kick your ass to clear up some of your understandin' bill!

### AQUARIUS (JANUARY 20 – FEBRUARY 18)

You can soon have the romance 'n' love you've always dreamed of, but you have to start down below, not above. You need to go in the basement and make foundational repairs before even thinkin' 'bout fixin' the floors, doors or stairs. Success'll be great, but not endurin' or sealed, if you ain't serious about curin' yourself till you're healed!

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**OKANAGAN BAKERY** requires apprentice or journeyman baker. Must have minimum 2 years experience in production style bakery. Full benefits. Competitive wages. Fax resume to 250-549-1193. Attention: Brad.

**PARTS PERSON** Case IH/New Holland dealership in Wetaskiwin, Alberta. Competitive wages and benefit package. Submit resume in confidence: [georgec@hillecnh.com](mailto:georgec@hillecnh.com). Fax 780-352-9777.

**RV TECH** Minard's Leisure World, Weyburn, Saskatchewan is looking for a RV tech or person with RV mechanical/general maintenance experience. Preference given to qualified individuals but are willing to train the right person. Genie at 1-877-842-3288 or fax resume to 306-842-0707.

**SHEET METAL** journeyman required in the Whitecourt area. Residential and light commercial. All new installations. Generous benefit package. Company vehicle supplied. Call 780-204-0173.

**SHIPPER/RECEIVER**, Case IH/New Holland dealership in Wetaskiwin, Alberta. Competitive wages and benefit package. Submit resume in confidence: [georgec@hillecnh.com](mailto:georgec@hillecnh.com). Fax 780-352-9777.

## 1005. Help Wanted

**1005. Help Wanted**

## 1500. Help Wanted — Alta.

**SMOXY RIVER EXPRESS** in Fairbair, located in the Peace Country, has an immediate opening for a general operator. Fax resume to 780-837-2102 or email [srexpress@telus.net](mailto:srexpress@telus.net).

**THE MOOSOMIN** World-Spectator is accepting applications for the position of graphic designer. Experience with quark XPress or InDesign would be an asset. Training in graphic arts or experience in graphic design would be an asset. We offer a flexible, supportive work environment, competitive wages and a comprehensive benefits package. Apply to publisher Kevin Weedmark [world\\_spectator@sasktel.net](mailto:world_spectator@sasktel.net). Fax 306-453-3969. Box 250, Moosomin, SK S0G 3N0.

**VACUUM TRUCK DRIVERS** Newallta Corporation based in Medicine Hat and Edmonton, requires vacuum truck drivers to provide on-site service in the collection, transportation and land spraying of drilling fluids. Ideal candidates will have experience with 18-speed transmissions, Class 3 to 3 driver's licence with Q endorsement and a clean abstract. H2S, First Aid and confined space. Vacuum truck experience an asset. Submit resume and current abstract to: Fax 403-548-6141. Email: [tkerkholt@newallta.com](mailto:tkerkholt@newallta.com).

**WANTED:** Truck driver with Class 3 licence. Competitive wages. Please fax resume and driver's abstract to 403-729-3027.

**WELDERS** - All levels of welders needed to join our rapidly expanding company. Offering excellent competitive wages, benefits, RRSP's and apprenticeship opportunities. Apply to: Do All Metal Fabricating, Estevan, SK. Email: [ivanloosen@doallmetal.com](mailto:ivanloosen@doallmetal.com). Fax 306-634-8623.

## 1600. Volunteers Wanted

**Animethon 15**  
Needed: Projectionists, General Volunteers.  
Contact: [shaungtratt@gmail.com](mailto:shaungtratt@gmail.com)

Calling volunteers for the 12th Annual Dragon Boat Festival Aug 22, 23 & 24 at Louise McKinney Park. Free T-shirt, hat, meals & refreshments provided. Prizes & Draws. Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Lignan. Visit our website [www.dbf.ca](http://www.dbf.ca) or email us at [edbf07@gmail.com](mailto:edbf07@gmail.com)

Do you like to drive? Volunteer to drive fruit but walking seniors around Edmonton. Daytime Mon-Fri. We pay the gas! 732-1221

ever thought volunteering was for the dogs? Try volunteering with your pet-calf Deanna 413-4682 ([www.petherapyociety.com](http://www.petherapyociety.com))

**FUN VOLUNTEERING!** The Works Art and Design Festival wants YOU June 20-July 2. Contact Caitlyn Cummings at 780-426-2122 ext. 230, [tan22@theworks.ab.ca](mailto:tan22@theworks.ab.ca) or <http://www.theworks.ab.ca/festivalolder/volunteer/volunteer.html>

**Help Break the Code**  
40% of Albertans do not have the literacy skills they need. Teach an adult to read. Volunteer Today. Call Jordan 421-7323 [www.familia.ca](http://www.familia.ca)

**Senior's Birthday Entertainment** Senior recreation/activity centre needs volunteer entertainers for monthly afternoon parties. Weekday message Karen 780-468-1985. [seesa.ca](http://seesa.ca)

Take advantage of this volunteer experience of a lifetime! Become a friend to a NEW Canadian and share a life changing experience. Contact Dulan at 474-8554

Volunteer for the Coronation Triathlon on May 25th. Call Anna at 496-4935 for details.

Volunteer June 7th/8th at the RONA MS Bike Tour. Contact Lisa 463-1190

[lisa.billesberger@mssociety.ca](mailto:lisa.billesberger@mssociety.ca)

## FINE WINE AND LIQUOR STORE

### Assistant Manager

Downtown wine store is seeking enthusiastic person with knowledge and passion of fine wines with well developed computer and customer service skills.

We are a company that rewards performance and offers excellent opportunities for career advancement.

Begin an exciting journey with us.

Please fax resume to 780-417-1293 or email [dlandry@telus.net](mailto:dlandry@telus.net)

## A career that feeds the planet — and your soul.

Join the Planet Organic Market team — we offer a supportive work environment, competitive salaries, generous store discounts and excellent opportunities for advancement.

Currently we have career opportunities for:

- Kitchen Manager (full-time)
- Deli Supervisor (full-time)
- Cooks and Bakers (full-time and part-time)

Please send your resume to [careers@planetorganic.ca](mailto:careers@planetorganic.ca). For more information about Planet Organic Market, please visit [www.planetorganic.ca](http://www.planetorganic.ca)



PLANET ORGANIC

**1600. Volunteers Wanted**

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton is presently recruiting volunteers for the Court Assistants for Female Youth (C.A.F.F.Y.) Program. This program matches mentors to act as positive role models and provide support to female youth who have involvement in the Youth Criminal Justice System. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or in obtaining additional information, please contact Christine at 427-4060.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** To assist new immigrants on a first time shopping trip for essentials. 2-3 hrs. occasional, weekdays. Call 424-3545 ext 249.

**Volunteers Needed!** to help adult immigrants learn English, shifts day/eve., days/weeks, 3-4hrs/wk. No ex. req., various locations. Call 424-3545 ext 249.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** To help newcomer Somali children with homework. Begins in September. 2 Eves/wk. Northside location. Call 424-3545 ext 249.

**Volunteers Needed** to help new immigrants to Canada learn about Canadian customs and culture. Tues and Thurs due to August. Call 424-3545. Ext. 249.

**1700. Employment Wanted**

**NANNIES/CAREGIVERS** skilled workers/haubours. Overseas workers (nannies, construction workers, truck drivers, and so much more) are seeking employment in Canada. All are well trained and/or experienced in their field. Phone Worldwide Caregivers Inc. 780-790-0005; www.worldwidecaregivers.ca.

**2003. Artists Wanted**

**CITY OF SURREY**  
National Call for Public Artists  
**Catalysts, Connections, & Intersections**  
Five Public Art Projects for the City of Surrey, BC  
These exciting opportunities will explore our natural, built and cultural heritages, and become lasting legacies of Surrey-2008 Cultural Capital of Canada.

**Art budgets:**  
**\$100,000-\$130,000**  
**Deadline for First Stage Submissions: Thursday, May 08, 2008**

**Suicide prevention group.** Blue wave, is looking for music and performance acts pieces on the topic of youth troubles, depression and suicide to develop into a revue to perform at local high schools. All serious inquiries call Alyssa at 780-432-3747, or email Debbie at debbie@bluewave.ca

**2005. Artist to Artist**

Looking for local artists to donate art for charity auction for www.human.org for June. Please contact Jeannette ASAP jegan@usaberta.ca.

**Musical director wanted** for Musical Comedy for Edmonton Fringe, produced by Maggots Inc. Contact Chris at 906-9239 or email at chris.3mv@shaw.ca

**2010. Musicians Available**

**Bass Player Available.** extensive pro experience, pro gear, backing vocals etc. t\_rex\_audio@shaw.ca

**2020. Musicians Wanted**

A drummer and bass player wanted for retro rock band. South side rehearsal. Demos available. 780-660-6703

**ATTENTION ALL BASS PLAYERS.** Rattlesnake Romeo is arming for a tour with a fresh new album-Simplicity and Amplified-for release spring of 2008. The band is holding auditions seeking a most talented musician to suit this high energy group. Canadian tour dates set. liquidvoltage@hotmail.com

**2020. Musicians Wanted**

**Bassist & Guitarist needed.** More info at myspace.com/ritchivalour. Contact Oliver at 493-0483.

**Edmonton band looking** for committed bass player. Must have gear and transportation. Shows and recording in the near future. Contact Mike @ 780-920-6352.

**Edmonton band looking** for committed bass player. Must have gear and transportation. Shows and recording in the near future. Contact Mike @ 780-920-6352.

**Edmonton based professional** gigging band-some covers and original material-seeks professional lead guitar player. Backup vocals and asset. No use of any drugs or intoxicating substances will be tolerated. See website for audition details (Audition May 19, 10 a.m., Western Antiques & Collectibles. Metal & cast toys, implement seats, signs. Pilgrim Auction, 403-556-8555; www.auction-sales.ca.

**Female vocalist needed** to front established local cover band. Rock and dance music. Call Kris at 780-441-5044.

**Gigging Band Needs** Bass Player with original and cover material. Influences are Foo fighters, Alexsifonia, Matt Good. Must have good energy. Call Scott (780)860-0294 or email mgdm66@gmail.com

**Gigging, recording original band.** Vis Vitalis seeks second guitar w/lead leads, back up vox. Vintage hard rock/sound/gear. Call Scott Good times. Rock n roll. Listen at myspace.com/visvitalis. visvitalisrock@hotmail.com

**GUITARISTS, BASSISTS, Pianists & Drummers.** vocalists needed for good paying teaching jobs. Call 429-2262

**Looking for Country Lead** Guitar Player. Experience with Sequel Software Required. Burn a Couple of Songs Will Need to Travel (Near Redwater). Am willing to pay expenses and costs. Shouldn't take more than a few hours. Contact Bob at 780-398-2150.

**Male or Female Vocalist** Wanted for Dance/Pop/Experimental Group. 660-8703

**Mature Basso** Seeks Pianist for Pleasure Recording and Possible Gigs. danielbardear@yahoo.ca

**Pro-level Bass Player** Wanted for Original/Covers Rock trio. Please be Serious and Professional. Over 25 and Under 45. Backup Vocals an Asset. 860-8277.

**This is War** seeks Metal singer/screamer. Must be able to tour. Influences Three Inches of Blood, Soil Work and Faith No More. Please call Jeff at 932-3342 or Jon at 221-8366.

**TW Productions** seeks bands, singles and/or duos of all styles for recording. Special promo deals. Further inquiries call Jeff at 932-3342 or 757-6941.

**2100. Auditions**

**AUDITIONHELL - Western** Canada's most recommended film and TV acting weekend workshop: May 23, 24 and 25 in Edmonton. To register or for more info, www.auditionhell.com/hell.html or Peter: (403) 807-1960

**2200. Massage Therapy**

**Chinese traditional body & feet** deep tissue massage by registered massage therapist. 443-6221. 11639-97 St.

**IF YOU'RE TIRED OF**  
**INEFFECTIVE THERAPY.**  
Therapeutic Massage. Heidi 1-780-632-3515 (Vegreville) 1-780-668-6139 (Edmonton)

**Mobile Spa & In Call Bodywork**  
**Therapy (Lic. & Bonded, 20 yrs. exp., Oliver area) for relaxation and rejuvenation.** Target your stress, aches, poor circulation, toxins and fatigue with aroma-steam, shower, massage, and talk therapy. 428-1965 or 920-1965. By appt

**2200. Massage Therapy**

**SWEDISH-CALIFORNIAN** massage. 20 years experience. Old Strathcona. Also evenings and weekends. Almatia 405-8765

**3010. Auctions**

**2-DAY AUCTION** for Jim & Bev Fam, West of Sundre, Alberta. May 17, 10 a.m., Farm's Rig Welding & Acceage Equipment. May 19, 10 a.m., Western Antiques & Collectibles. Metal & cast toys, implement seats, signs. Pilgrim Auction, 403-556-8555; www.auction-sales.ca.

**AGRICULTURE EQUIPMENT**  
For Sale By Unreserved Auction for Wilmar Implement Co. Ltd. and Coralia Angus Ltd. A large selection of tractors, combines, swathers, trailers, and much more! Includes John Deere 9100 4WD tractor, 5 John Deere 9600 combines, New Holland B780 round baler. Sale Date June 3, 10 a.m. in Provost, Alberta. Contact Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers 1-800-491-4434 or rbuction.com for more info.

**LET US HELP** you turn your used equipment into cash. Consign now to one of our major job auctions. Call today to list your equipment. 1-800-657-2075/PL15407

**OKANAGAN VALLEY** Collector Car Auction, Kelowna, BC. Kelowna Curling Club, May 23 - 24. Sell your classic, muscle, exotic car. Buy your dream car! To Consign 250-253-8256 / 250-212-007. Website: www.TheElectricGarage.com.

**OKOTOKS COLLECTOR** Car Auction, Sat. May 24. Consign online. Free brochure. 403-938-4139 or 1-877-656-8657; www.okotoks-srauction.com.

**THINKING AUCTIONS!** Guarantee your results with Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers. Whether it's equipment, real estate, livestock or a complete farm dispersal. Contact us today! 1-900-491-4434 or rbuction.com.

**3210. Misc. For Sale**

**AFFORDABLE PHONE** Reconnection. Bad credit - no problem! Call Tembo Telecom and ask about our new customer special. Sign up online and save \$20. 1-877-266-6398; www.tembo.ca.

**BED, QUEEN, orthopedic Pillow** mattress/box-spring. New, still in plastic. Full warranty. Cost \$1100, call \$375. KING size, extra-thick, cost \$1550, sell \$650. Will deliver. 403-371-1400.

**BUILDINGS FOR SALE!** "Beat next increase!" Deposit holds for 3 months. 25' X 40' \$6900. 30' X 40' \$8300. 35' X 70' \$14,500. 40' X 80' \$16,900. Many others. Canadian manufacturer since 1980. Pioneer Steel 1-800-668-5422; www.pioneersteel.com.

**CAN'T FIND** what you are looking for here? Try www.whatcha-lookin-for.ca. Canada's newest extensive online classifieds. It's fun and free to sign up!

**COLORADO SPRUCE,** lodgepole pine, white spruce + more seedlings. Greenhouse-grown in Alberta and Prairie-hardy. Wholesale prices and quantity discounts. Call 780-826-1709 or www.borealhort.com.

**FOR SALE.** Rodent proof 40' and 20' sea containers. 5' X 10' corrals panels starting at \$55. 403-226-1722; 403-540-4164; 1-866-517-8335; www.magnates-steel.com.

**GENUINE HEINTZMAN** Upright Piano, with bench, Mint condition, bright tone, 46 inches tall. Call Bob to see at 714 - 7 St. N. Three Hills. Asking \$2600. Phone 403-443-7085.

**HOT TUB/SPA** 2008 - All options, with cover, 2008 model with full warranty. Brand new, still in wrapper. Cost \$8,300. Sacrifice \$4,750. Call 403-663-9767.

**3210. Misc. For Sale**

**MEMORY FOAM** Orthopedic mattresses. NASA technology. Retail \$1500. Liquidation price, \$399. Queen (all sizes available). Limited quantities. Health Rest Warehouse, 10821 - 182 St., Edmonton. Call 1-888-420-7378.

**METAL SIDING/ROOFING.** Best prices! 32" VRI/36" Toughrib 29ga. Galvalume \$.69 sq. ft. Colours \$.89 sq. ft. IN STOCK 20/30 year warranty. ALTA-WIDE Suppliers 1-888-263-8254.

**POOL TABLE 1" 3 piece slate,** 1 ft. Professional Series, Solid Wood with all accessories and brand New, still boxed. Cost \$6,800. Sell \$1950. 403-255-0979.

**SAWMILLS** from only \$3,495. Convert your logs to valuable lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available; www.norwood-industries.com. Free information. 1-800-566-6899 ext. 4000T.

**TRES!** Beautiful Colorado Blue Spruce, 70 trees, 20' tall \$139.30 (Free shipping!) Also huge 4' tower Poplar, Lodgepole Pine, Mountain Ash and Grand New. Alberta grown. 1-866-873-3846; www.treeline.ca.

**WHITE SPRUCE 4 - 6 ft.** \$37. Machine planted, fertilized and mulched. Minimum order 15 trees. Delivery charge \$50. - \$70 per order. Crystal Spring 403-820-0961.

**3400. Travel/Trade**

**ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGES.** Book online at www.canadatravels.com and save more on your vacations. Use code NCA74327 for discount or call us toll free at 1-800-563-5722.

**3510. Building Supplies**

**#1A STEEL** building sale! Save up to 60% on your new garage, shop, warehouse. 6 colours available! 40-year warranty! Free shipping 1st 20 callers! 1-800-457-2206; www.crown-steelbuildings.com.

**4001. Farm Stuff**

**HEATED CANOLA** WANTED. Buying green, damaged, spring threshed canola. Buying wheat, barley, oats and peas for feed. Call 403-387-2254.

**5003. Real Estate Misc.**

**20' WIDE Clearance** Sale. Win-Win or No Deal. No reasonable offer refused. Call today for plans and availability. 16' wide now. MODULARS 3 months. Best Buy Homes 1-877-396-5564.

**2008 SRI HOMES AVAILABLE.** Great deals - immediate delivery. Call Ken or Ed at Economy Homes 1-800-689-6953; www.econohomes.com.

**A1 HOMES.** Sale! Sale! Sale! 16' wide \$65,900. 4 free appliances, solid wood cabinets and tiles. 18' - 20' multi-section available. Red Deer 403-314-2244. Airdrie 403-945-4488.

**CEDAR CHALET** 2100 sq. ft. on 7.19 acres only \$549,000. Open beams, panoramic mountain view. "Excluded" on Highway 22 close to Carolina, 25 minutes to Sundre, 35 minutes to Rocky. Lyle Nielsen, Century 21 Advantage, call 403-358-8002; Bus. 403-346-0021.

**CROSS COUNTRY** Modular Homes. 2 Showhomes for sale. One 1792 sq. ft. - One 1740 sq. ft. Both loaded with upgrades. New models arriving soon. Call 780-470-9000 or 1-800-470-5444.

**ESTATE SALE** of Peter Paetkau, Valleyview, 4 quarters, one 5-acre parcel, 1/4 with older house. All within 5 miles of town limits. For information call Kay at 780-980-0555.

**JANDEL HOMES** factory direct pricing. New 20' wide \$98,900. Cathedral ceilings, low E windows, appliances. Free delivery + set-up to 100 miles. Jandel Homes 1-800-463-0084; www.jandelhomes.com.

**5003. Real Estate Misc.**

**LIVE THE** good life in Nova Scotia's beautiful Annapolis Valley. Warmer weather, great gardening and nearby Acadia University. Free package: www.livetheinnova.com. 1-888-865-4647. Email: mail@kingscedar.ca.

**NEED CASH?** Home owner mortgage loans. Purchases, renewals, refinances to 100%. Alberta Home Loans Inc. Call today 1-877-568-0929, Jason Pelletier. Pay off debt and start saving! www.jpelletier.com.

**NEED CASH?** Mortgages at unbeatable rates. Refinance, purchase and renewals. Consolidate debts and save money! Call Adrienne at Stellar Mortgage 780-935-1063 or 780-444-4000; www.MortgageWay.ca.

**NEW HOME INVENTORY** Reduction Sale. 15 available for immediate delivery. 16 and 20 wide \$86,500 to \$118,500. Free delivery. 780-238-0087.

**PROVINCE-WIDE** Classifieds. Reach over 1 million readers weekly. Only \$249. + GST (based on 25 words or less). Call this newspaper NOW for details.

**WATERFRONT LOTS,** Nova Scotia's Sawmill Landing in the beautiful, historic Sherbrooke Village and St. Mary's River region. A slice of heaven; www.sawmill-landing.com. Phone 902-522-2343.

**WINALTA HOMES - Building Communities.** Now selling - Jubilee Landing in Sherwood Park. Lighthouse Points in Sylvan Lake. Jutland Ridge in Stony Plain. Home and lot starting at \$259,900. Winalta Homes 1-866-960-2112.

**WINALTA LEADS** the way, 22' X 72' ready-to-move modular homes. Extremely popular floor plan and many options. Limited availability. From \$139,900. Winalta Homes 1-866-960-2112.

**WONT LAST** one only New 2008 16 wide. Fridge, stove, dishwasher, hardwood cabinets, 12' eaves. Delivered for \$64,970. Call 780-387-2254.

**WRITE YOUR OWN DEAL** on any home we offer! 16's, 20's, 22's and modulars. Limited time! Sunshine Homes (2007) Call now 1-877-887-2254.

**5155. Shared Accommodations**

**Condominium** to share with sweet and kind lady. Male or female welcome. Must be working. \$550.00 All inclusive. Contact 453-7957.

**SWM** willing to share Accommodations with SWF. 20-30yrs old. No DO. \$495.00/month. Utilities incl. Close to WEM. Bus route/Internet. Initial interview in person. 780-299-9547.

**6100. Cars**

**#1 IN CREDIT** Rebuilding. Need a car, truck, van or SUV? No credit fast. Bad credit? No credit! Bankruptcy! Repossession! No problem. Call today and drive away. Call Stephanie, 1-877-792-0599. Free delivery anywhere; www.autocreditfast.ca.

**1ST IN CAR LOANS;** www.carloanslogo.ca. Western Canada's lowest rates and prices on any make any model. Call us first or go online for free approval. 1-888-859-8666.

**BANKRUPT? BAD CREDIT?** Call us! All makes and models. Professional credit rebuilders. Call Garth 403-888-5593. Cavalade Auto Acceptance Corp., serving Alberta for 16 years.

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**LOANSTAR** Auto loans approved! Best rates, cars, trucks, SUV's, vans. Free delivery BC and Alberta. Always approved! Call toll free 1-866-550-2279 or apply online www.cancredit.ca.

**NEED A CAR** or truck? Good credit, bad credit. Want a Visa? #1 success rate. Delivery in BC and Alberta; www.drivehome.com or 1-888-591-1148.

**6650. Tires/Parts/Access.**

**WRECKING** over 2000 vehicles. All makes all models. Cars, trucks up to 3 tons. Lots of 4 X 4's. We ship parts anywhere and offer a 90 day warranty. Call North-East Recyclers toll free 1-877-903-3325, Lloydminster.

**7205. Psychic**

**BELIEVE!** Exceptional Psychics! Love - Money - Life! 1-800-783-3800, \$3.09 minute. 18+ 1-877-478-4410. Visa/MC/Amex/DirectDeposit! www.mysticalconnections.ca.

**7245. Misc. Services**

**\$300. LOAN SERVICE.** by phone, no credit refused, quick and easy, payable over 8 or 12 installments. Toll free 1-877-776-1660.

**A CRIMINAL RECORD?** We'll clear it! Don't be misled by others, we'll get you what you really need. Lowest price, guaranteed pardons/waivers. Toll free 1-800-507-9043; www.pardon-granted.ca.

**CLEAR YOUR** criminal record now - A record affects employment and any travel anywhere! We guarantee your pardon. Apply online www.canadianpardons.ca or call today toll free 1-800-298-5250.

**CRIMINAL RECORD?** Why be embarrassed or fearful? Canadian criminal pardon/U.S. travel waiver. Uncontested low cost divorce? Debt recovery? Alberta small court claims payable to \$25,000. 1-800-347-2540.

**CRIMINAL RECORDS** affect travel to 1 country only! Don't be misled. Canadian pardons guaranteed at the National Pardon Centre online: www.nationalpardon.org. Call free 1-866-242-2411.

**GET BACK** on track! Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need money? We lend! If you own your home - you qualify. www.pioneer-west.com. BBB member 1-877-987-1420.

**LINE CHECK** Locators Inc. Subsurface locating, pipe, cable, utilities. Abs Data software, current EUB plans. Equipped with Metrolux i5000. Robin Robinson, certified operator. Call 403-358-1122.

**9450. Adult Massage**

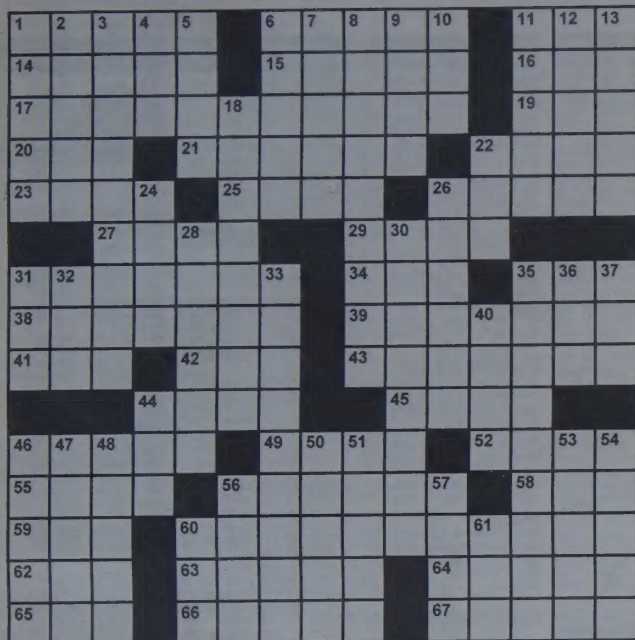
**Asian Touch** Massage Asian Ladies. Young and Friendly. The Best Relaxation Place in Town. We Welcome All Clients. Contact Ken at 895-1990.

**13th annual readers' poll**  
ballots are in and counted

**RESULTS COMING MAY 29**

**SEE THE BEST OF EDMONTON**  
thank you for voting.





HER CRUMBLIES  
JEDI CHLORINATE  
AXIS CONTRACTION  
GATE PRAT GOITS  
DOHS ABSENCE  
ARP RIOT AUN  
RATTOIRCHILDREN  
MAYEMAYENOT  
FRATERNALTWIN  
UTE ANDY TIME  
COMPLAIS ADOS  
EREI USSR WELT  
LONESOMELY UTIL  
ENDIMATILE SINE  
BOITUECAPS ETE  
SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

## GAME THEORY

I THINK I SEE A LITTLE PATTERN

JONESIN' CROSSWORD BY MATT JONES

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### ACROSS

- 1 Terrible
- 6 Bald comic strip character
- 11 Pearce, in Paraguay
- 14 Quit hogging
- 15 Hirsch of "Speed Racer"
- 16 NYC's Fifth, for one
- 17 Earn money, in the game Operation
- 19 Election contender, for short
- 20 100%
- 21 Folk musician Buffy \_\_\_ Marie
- 22 Hired helper
- 23 Hit the highest point
- 25 Scott who was "46...and Pregnant"
- 26 Actress Swinton in the "Chronicles of Narnia" series
- 27 Lime coat
- 29 Artificial, like pearls
- 31 Barkley or Bronson
- 34 Yukon XL manufacturer
- 35 Move like a bobblehead doll
- 38 With 39-across, what's revealed on the back of Trivial Pursuit cards
- 39 See 38-across
- 41 Ready-go link
- 42 Rock guitarist Steve
- 43 It can be made with sugar cane or corn
- 44 Feudal worker
- 45 \_\_\_ about (roughly)
- 46 History Channel show that follows loggers in the Pacific Northwest
- 49 Worry your fool head off
- 52 Lasso material
- 53 Primary
- 56 Character introduced in the cartoon short "Frog Baseball"
- 58 Heng (behind)
- 59 Road trip stopover

- 60 Board game whose ads featured the line "Pretty sneaky, sis"
- 62 Pistol
- 63 Cineplex \_\_\_ (former movie theater chain)
- 64 Two under par hole
- 65 Clearasil competitor
- 66 Gull relatives
- 67 Ad words

### DOWN

- 1 Performance rights org.
- 2 Intact
- 3 Completely lose it
- 4 It starts with http
- 5 Stuff at the bottom of a wine barrel
- 6 Cholesterol-reducing drug
- 7 "Legend of a Cowgirl" singer Coppola
- 8 What Blarney Stone kissers get
- 9 Elation
- 10 "\_\_\_-haw!"
- 11 Of Benedict XVI, for example
- 12 Stay away from
- 13 Princess rescued by Link
- 18 Item on a San Francisco tchotchke
- 22 Cake recipe word
- 24 Actress Deborah of "The King and I"
- 26 Arizona's second-largest city
- 28 Number of points on the Canadian flag's maple leaf
- 30 \_\_\_ fluid
- 31 Syringe measurements: abbr.
- 32 Tool that breaks up ground
- 33 Starch, as a laundry agent
- 35 Specialty that involves the brain and spinal cord
- 36 Mining find

- 37 Internet connection that postdated dial-up
- 40 "Dial \_\_\_ Watkins" (2004 album by Welsh bluesman Geraint Watkins)
- 44 Obama or Clinton: abbr.
- 46 Pal, in Panama
- 47 Palindromic anti-anxiety drug
- 48 Like some mouthwash
- 50 Kept going, like a grammatically incorrect sentence
- 51 Category that excludes 1
- 53 St. \_\_\_ Girl (beer brand)
- 54 Snowy heron relative
- 56 Foretell
- 57 "Keep this word in" to a proofreader
- 60 Army bed
- 61 Remote

### To the Dancing Bug

by RUBEN BOLLING





# EXCLUSIVE

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## INTERSECTIONS • PHOTOS OF OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS



Gavin Anderson enjoys a bubble-filled 2nd birthday in Edmonton, Alberta on Saturday, May 10, 2008. PHOTO BY JOHN ULAN

# t5p

FIRST PERSON • MOM STORIES • BY FAWNDA MITHRUSH | 659 words

## Who Are You, Ma?

A DAUGHTER TRIES TO GLEAN WISDOM FROM AN ENIGMATIC HIPPIE PAST—ACCURACY BE DAMNED

To make up for the years of relentless, curious questioning I've bombarded my Ma with about her carpet bag and wrap-skirt-clad days—all brokenly recalled in a way only someone who experienced them in a stoned, hippie stupor can—I thought I'd write a tribute for my dear, cherished Ma on Mother's Day.

Alas, I'm such a terrible daughter that my tribute comes a week late. It's likely due to my own stupor from last weekend—but this, I know, my Ma understands. Like only a real hippie Ma can. Go figure. I am my mother's daughter, after all. But maybe if I tell your stories, Ma, even just a couple, it'll redeem me a bit. It's the least I can do. Considering what they've meant to me.

My fascination with your life, Ma, started a few years ago. When we kids pulled out your old guitar and thought it sounded like magic. Like it had been touched by greys. We knew it. We made up stories to justify its status—that it had been plucked by Jimmy Page, that Pete Townshend had left it behind after The Who's

first show here in '67, when they were small-time and opened for Herman's Hermits—one of his practice guitars, maybe? We know you and Auntie Z. were at that house party with them that August night. She remembers.

This same guitar that's taken on a tall-tale life of its own is now propped in the corner of my kitchen, the black paper on the case torn and cracked. When friends come over they gravitate toward it, swooning over its thick sound. I cautiously allow the ones I trust to play it, reminding them it's an heirloom that my sister and brother and I will surely fight over one day. Even though none of us even play guitar.

I open the case and smell it once in a while, thinking of where it's been. Across Europe and back: seven years hitchhiking, when travel was adventure and not just Eurotrip-style clubhopping, when the world was dangerous in a more romantic way. You tell me about the drop dead gorgeous Italian film star who gave you and your friend a ride in his teeny

sport convertible, backpacks jostled awkwardly in the back. He drove you around Rome, saving your passport-less selves from the *polizia* with his celebrity wiles. You even met his mother. He dropped you off around the corner from his soundstage before he was accosted by a flurry of young girls. You still can't say exactly who he was. "Gianri Macchia? Something like that."

Dammit, Ma. You really should have been taking better notes. How the hell am I supposed to write a tell-all bio with just a coffee tin full of ticket stubs and crackled newspaper clippings showing photos of your boomer crew protesting in front of the old Bay building on Jasper—all of it dusted with decades-old weed crumbs? Hypnosis, perhaps, would help your recall?

We find a brittle chunk of Keith Moon's drumskin in this rusting tin. But the skin is from The Who's '67 show, you say, not from their second stint here in '68 when they came to headline the Edmonton Gardens. This time, the band had just got an advance pressing of the new Beatles LP—*The White Album*, really?—but had no turntable in their hotel. It was Sunday and shops were closed. You, who had tagged along with a reporter friend, said, "Well, I have a turntable."

You tell me you'd never forget the look on your out-of-the-shower, turban-toweled roommate's face when you walked into your apartment near King Eddy's School followed by

Moon, John Entwistle, and a roadie, snapped up your wood-panelled turntable, and walked right back out again—grinning from ear to ear. The rest were waiting at the hotel—what was then the Kingsway Motor Inn—and while the record spun, you and Moon zoomed remote control cars up and down the hallway, the entire floor to yourselves, booked out by the band and crew.

It was a shame to have that Philips turntable collecting dust in the rafters of the garage, Ma, and I know you felt a little leery about letting me borrowing it, along with *Songs From Big Pink* and *Pearl*, but I can assure you that my dear friends—who know and love you just as well from their days crashing on your basement floor—are just as careful with the vinyl as they should be. We've been listening to *The Doors* on repeat, watching the needle slide over and rest in its cradle before pushing START once again, saying stupid hipster things like "Listen to that crackle."

I think of how I've snapped up the spoils of your adventures. (Really, I do take meticulous care of those killer blue knee-high boots you got in London when you were 17.) And even though I've now outed your hippie days to the world, I know you'd do it all over again.

You say, "in a heartbeat."

Thanks, Ma. For the stories. I'm never short of them now.

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